

The **KINGBIRD**



VOL. XXIV, NO. 3

JULY • 1974

FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.

THE KINGBIRD, published four times a year (January, May, July and October), is a publication of The Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc., which has been organized to further the study of bird life and to disseminate knowledge thereof, to educate the public in the need of conserving natural resources and to encourage the establishment and maintenance of sanctuaries and protected areas. Individual member's dues are \$5.00 annually. A member wishing to make an additional contribution may become a Sustaining Member (\$7.50), a Supporting Member (\$10), or a Life Member (\$100 — "payable over a four-year period in equal installments," if member so desires). Student membership \$3.00. KINGBIRD subscription for non-members \$6.00 per year on calendar year basis only. Single copies: \$1.50 All memberships are for the calendar year and begin with January of the year in which the member joins. Memberships beginning after the first of the year include back issues for that year.

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Publication office is 20 Drumlins Terrace, Syracuse, N.Y. 13224.

Second class postage paid at Syracuse, N.Y.



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PUBLICATION OF THE FEDERATION OF NEW YORK STATE BIRD CLUBS, INC.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

A question I hear frequently is, "Why isn't the Federation more active in conservation matters?" or "Why doesn't the Federation do something about conservation?" These queries imply that the Federation does nothing about conservation, that it doesn't do enough, or that it doesn't concern itself with the proper issues. Within the question and its implications lies a basic problem for which I feel the Federation must find a solution. Briefly stated, the problem is, "What should be the nature and scope of the conservation interests of the Federation?" There are some who would have us confine ourselves to bird watching and listing; there are some who in addition would have us act in conservation matters where birds are involved; and there are those who would have us take a stand on conservation issues in the broadest sense — all aspects of our environment — not only local but national and even world-wide. The purposes of the Federation as defined in our By-laws are broad enough to encompass any of the above concepts.

Over the past years our Conservation Committee, the Council, individual clubs and members have taken action in various ways to influence the outcome of many local, state and national ecologic issues but, so far as I know, no guiding conservation concept or principle has ever been formulated for the Federation itself.

It is my feeling that agreement on a set of principles or guidelines for the Federation to follow as a conservation ethic or action policy would do much toward improving our effectiveness and in resolving much of the uncertainty and questioning. No matter what the decision may eventually be as to which way we should go, not everyone will agree or be satisfied, but a basis for decision and action would be established. (I am not talking about the individual clubs — they should be free to act as they may decide.)

With this in mind, I propose that a major item of business for the 1974 Council meeting shall be an open discussion of this whole question. Hopefully, a decision can be reached. I urge that between now and that meeting, each of our member clubs consider carefully what they feel the Federation's conservation policies should be. The delegates should come prepared to express the views of their clubs.

Let me caution that mere adoption of a statement of policy will not solve our problem. There are the ancillary problems of methods of im-

plementation, manpower, financing & tax exempt status. All of these must be kept in mind when considering what the policies should be — they have been limiting factors in the past. The most well-intended, high-principled statement will be merely words if it cannot be translated into action.

May I urge that the president of each club come as a delegate to the Council. By such personal participation they can best learn about the Federation, contribute to conducting its business and solving its problems, and enjoy the fun and fellowship of a Federation gathering.

I'll see you in Fredonia — October 18-20.

Gordon M. Meade, M.D.

BALD EAGLE CHRISTMAS COUNT DATA

MARTIN BORKO

The following chart and this article on the wintering status of the Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) in New York State were written to raise questions, stimulate discussion and eventually clarify the status of the Bald Eagle in New York State. Christmas Count records 1965-1973 and correspondence with the compilers were the only research tools used.

No Bald Eagles were reported by any count area west of Conesus-Honeoye Lake. This is possibly due to the few count areas west of 77° 37'W and the uncommon status of the Bald Eagle even though much of their area is adjacent to the Great Lakes. Conesus-Hemlock-Honeoye Lake has had a regular wintering pair of Bald Eagles since 1964. This pair is the only one that has recently (1973) been proven to have nested in New York State, although data from its 1972 eggs did indicate high pesticide residues.

Syracuse and Montezuma both report the Bald Eagle as being most uncommon. Ben Burtt, Syracuse compiler, states the 1965 report is the "only report in 24 years." The author remembers being at Cornell (1961-63) and seeing an old eagle nest at Montezuma. Yet from 1965 to 1973 only one report comes from there during the Christmas Count period.

Further east and along the Hudson: Putnam County, Peekskill, Catskill-Coxsackie counts indicate the very uncommon nature of the bird. The bird reported in the Catskill-Coxsackie report apparently *was not* verified though a single reporting would be plausible.

Rockland County's report is both encouraging and discouraging. Their counts show two reports in the last nine years. Bob Deed, Rockland compiler, points out that between 1947 and 1962 Rockland had good Bald Eagle counts. In the years 1948, '50, and '58 seven Bald Eagles were reported, with an apparent high of 8 in 1952. They remained regular in low numbers through about 1960. On closing his letter. Bob Deed is encouraged by an apparent increase in migrant and summering populations.

Many would probably feel that Long Island should have a large wintering population with all its shoreline and open water, but this is not so. Paul Buckley reports only an occasional migrant or vagrant bird. LeRoy Wilcox reports seeing only "one in Eastern Long Island in the last 10 years where before I could see a few every year especially in the winter." Richard A. Sloss sums it up best when commenting on the Golden Eagle, "Golden Eagle is even more uncommon than the Bald Eagle if such is possible."

Monticello, the count area for the Sullivan County Audubon Society,

has been the most regular reporter of Bald Eagles in New York State. Reports for eight of the last 9 years list the Bald Eagle. Five of 8 show more than 2 birds. The 1972 count shows 8 birds and the yet unpublished 1974 report shows 11 birds. Is the regularity of the Sullivan Count due to low pesticide levels and the high degree of protection afforded to the reservoirs and lakes found in that county? If this is the case does this resource deserve continued protection or are wintering populations of any great concern? Does this population represent a shift of Rockland's population?

John Bull (personal correspondence), currently going to press with the New York State Bird Book, gives the following high winter densities in New York: "25+ Cornwall, Orange County winter 1878 (E. A. Mearns), seen together; 18 Croton Point, Westchester County, Feb 11, 1951 (H. Darrow)." On January 14, 1973 twenty-one Bald Eagles were seen by Arlene and Marty Borko at the Rio-Mongaup reservoir complex. On December 17, 1973 Jim and Mary Key reported from 21 to 24 Bald Eagles at the same complex. These are conservative figures. Orange and Rockland Utility employees indicate highs of 28.

During both winters 72-73 and 73-74 there was a die-off of the alewife (*Pomolobus pseudoharengus*). This undoubtedly caused the eagles to concentrate in large numbers. Personnel at the Department of Environmental Conservation feel that the alewife was probably introduced into these waters about 1964 by New Jersey fisherman. As the alewife is here to stay, it is probable that it does represent a staple in the diet of wintering eagles along with deer carrion, ducks and other fishes. The fact that the alewife is not responsible for the eagles regular presence is strengthened by the fact that four were reported from Rio-Mongaup complex on the 1952 count.

The Christmas Count data does generally support the contention that Sullivan County supports the greatest concentration of wintering Bald Eagles in New York State if not the entire inland Northeast. The only other count area reporting more than one eagle, Conesus-Hemlock-Honeoye Lake, has the only nesting pair in the state. Are there nesting birds in Sullivan County?

Box 511, Wurtsboro, N.Y. 12790

	Conesus Hemlock Honeoye Lake	Montezuma	Syracuse	Monticello	Rockland Co.	Catskill Coxsackie	Peekskill
	42° 47' N 77° 37' W	43° 00' N 76° 44' W	43° 06' N 76° 05' W	41° 34' N 74° 38' W	41° 08' N 73° 58' W	42° 17' N 73° 53' W	41° 24' N 73° 51' W
1965	Jan 2, 1965 <u>2 B. E.</u> **						
1966	Jan 2, 1966 2 B. E.		Dec 26, 1965 1 B. E.	Jan 1, 1966 2 B. E.			
1967				Jan 1, 1967 2 B. E.	Dec 26, 1966 1 B. E.		Dec 31, 1966 <i>li B. E.</i>
1968				Dec 31, 1967 1 B. E.			
1969	Dec 22, 1968 2 B. E.			Jan 1, 1969 6 B.E.		Dec 29, 1968 (1 B. E.)	
1970	Dec 21, 1969 2 B. E.			Jan 1, 1970 4 B. E.			
1971	Jan 3, 1971 2 B. E.			Dec 26, 1970 1 B. E.			
1972	Dec 31, 1971 <i>la B. E.</i>			Jan 1, 1972 5a 3i 8 B. E.	Dec 18, 1971 <i>la B. E.</i>		
1973		Jan 1, 1973 <i>li B. E.</i>		Dec 30, 1972 <i>la 2 i</i> 3 B. E.			*(<i>la B. E.</i>)

* Seen during count period

** Underlining set in bold print on Christmas Count

	Putnam Co.	Brooklyn L. I.	Southern Nassau Co.	Captree L. I.	Central Suffolk Co.	Quoque to Watermill	Montauk L. I.
	41° 24' N 73° 48' W	40° 36' N 73° 56' W	40° 37' N 73° 36' W	40° 40' N 73° 16' W	40° 50' N 72° 47' W	40° 50' N 72° 27' W	41° 03' N 72° 00' W
1965							
1966		Dec 26, 1965 li B. E.			Dec 27, 1965 1 B. E.		
1967	Jan 2, 1967 /a B. E.				Dec 26, 1966 1 B. E.		
1968		(1 B.E.)					
1969		Dec 22, 1968 1 B. E.		2i B. E.	Dec 26, 1970 li B. E.		Dec 28, 1968 1 B. E.
1970							
1971			Jan 3, 1971 1 B. E.		Dec 26, 1970 li B. E.	Dec 23, 1970 1 B. E.	Jan 18, 1971 li B. E.
1972					Dec 27, 1971 la B. E.		Dec 18, 1971 li B. E.
1973							
1974							

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NEW YORK STATE WATERFOWL COUNT, JANUARY 1974

DAVID B. PEAKALL

The annual waterfowl census was held 14-22 January. An aerial count was made by the New York Department of Environment Conservation during the same period. Both counts are given complete, but a comparison of those species with a thousand or more individuals is of interest. This comparison is as follows:

	<i>Upstate</i>		<i>Long Island</i>	
	<i>Aerial</i>	<i>Ground</i>	<i>Aerial</i>	<i>Ground</i>
Canada Goose	538	2873	3786	4109
Brant	0	0	21436	12251
Mallard	4106	8830	7023	8278
Black	4650	3699	20328	17969
Wigeon	0	70	441	2692
Redhead	5655	7567	0	26
Canvasback	4983	5626	1720	5679
Scaup	9845	9091	51939	87574
Goldeneye	7199	7333	837	2318
Bufflehead	0	3476	738	2202
Oldsquaw	138	1759	513	696
Scoter (all spp)	0	322	9686	9982
Merganser (all spp)	15820	18224	5308	1748
Total (ll spp)	53301	70331	124695	128814

As last year it was found that ground counts were better Upstate than aerial counts. Aerials gave better figures for brant as they did last year) and for mergansers on Long Island. The data suggests that the Department of Environmental Conservation could leave the Upstate counts to the Federation and concentrate solely on the offshore counts.

Comparison with last year's count shows a marked decrease of Canada Geese (mainly due to lower counts in Region 3), Goldeneye, Scoter, and somewhat lower counts of Mallards and Blacks, while Redhead numbers increased. Overall the ground count decreased from 265,000 to 229,100, and the aerial count from 167,100 to 158,800.

I could like to thank all persons that took part in the census. The regional organizers were:

Region 1

Dr. Alan M. Reckhew

Region 2

Walter Listman

Region 3

Dr. James Tate

Region 4

Les E. Bemont

Region 5

Dr. Fritz G. Scheider

Region 6

Robert C. Walker, Jr.

Region 7

John M. C. Peterson

Region 8

Guy Bartlett

Region 9

Edward D. Treacy

Region 10

Stephen B. Dempsey

Laboratory of Ornithology, 159 Sapsucker Woods Road, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

GROUND SURVEY

Species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
Common Loon	1						1			67	69
Red-throated Loon		1								24	25
Loon (spp)										1	1
Horned Grebe		1	94		14				1	283	393
Pied-billed Grebe			29	1	3				9	27	69
Mute Swan									33	433	466
Whistling Swan										4	4
Canada Goose			1680	3	18				1172	4109	6982
Brant										12251	12251
Snow Goose										1	1
Mallard	1503	1133	2996	175	1666	8	2	281	1066	8278	17108
Black Duck	689	211	1027	121	357	213	50	606	425	17969	21668
Mallard x Black				1	2						3
Gadwall	15			14	15					347	391
Pintail	8	1		4	1				9	148	171
Green-winged Teal		1							1	164	166
Blue-winged Teal								8		13	21
American Widgeon	52			16	1			1		2692	2762
Shoveler										483	483

Wood Duck		1	2	1			1		1	12	18
Redhead	110	21	7424	1	11					26	7593
Ring-neck			8		1		1		186	122	318
Canvasback	4355	8	1459		4					5679	11505
Scaup, all	2678	899	1490		3905	80	3	30	6	87574	96665
Common Goldeneye	4743	615	705	27	676	524	30	3	10	2318	9651
Bufflehead	2884	126	316		146				4	2202	5678
Oldsquaw	1401	234	22		51	41	10			696	2455
Harlequin										1	1
Common Eider										57	57
King Eider	7	2			2					4	15
White-winged Scoter	8	208	1		2		1			7722	7942
Surf Scoter	2									1515	1517
Black Scoter										280	280
Scoter (spp)										465	465
Ruddy Duck										232	232
Hooded Merganser	4		22	2	2		2	1	16	136	185
Common Merganser	13353	266	219	10	308	3800	11	1	156	44	18168
Red-breasted Merganser		5	5		40	1				1568	1619
Coot		4	772		7				33	767	1583
Unidentified		42			23					100	165
TOTAL	31813	3379	18271	376	7255	4667	111	931	3128	158814	229145

AERIAL SURVEY							
	Champlain	Ontario St. Lawrence	Lake Ontario	Central Lakes	Hudson Valley	Long Island	Total
Mute Swan					9	541	550
Whistling Swan				1			1
Canada Goose		2		525	11	3786	4324
Brant						21436	21436
Snow Goose						77	77
Mallard		905	459	2645	97	7023	11129
Black	5	413	1362	2198	672	20328	24978
Green-winged Teal						120	120
American Wigeon						441	441
Redhead				5655			5655
Canvasback	605		3925	453		1720	6703
Scaup	640	725	5560	2920		51939	61784
Common Goldeneye	66	990	5030	1093	20	837	8036
Bufflehead						738	738
Oldsquaw		44	94			513	651
Scoter (spp)						9686	9686
Ruddy						40	40
Merganser (spp)	1051	3981	9867	915	6	5308	21128
Coot				357		12	369
Unidentified						150	150
Total	2367	7060	26297	16762	815	121695	177996

THE MYSTERIOUS OYSTERCATCHER

PAT SANTORA

The American Oystercatcher may be the most spectacular sighting on the wetlands of Long Island. A dozen years ago, you would not have seen him even in such prime shorebird habitat as Moriches Bay. Although Audubon himself reported these large birds nesting to Labrador, his account has not been corroborated. As recently as a quarter of a century ago, Long Island and even New Jersey sightings were merest hearsay, and one had to go to the Carolinas for this exciting experience. A little over a decade ago, the American Oystercatcher made his return to the eastern end of Long Island. No more is known of the reasons for the reappearance than for the disappearance. It is but one of the many fascinating lines of study this bird suggests.

There is sometimes a discrepancy between the "invasion" of an area by some life-form (bird or flower) and its first report by a human observer. This is unlikely with the oystercatcher, which would hardly be unobtrusive anywhere, much less an area so heavily "birded" as Long Island. He is too big, bold, and beautiful.

Among shorebirds, only the rare, Long-billed Curlew is larger, has, as advertised, a very long bill seven inches!), and is of even more ancient lineage and apparently longer lifespan than the Oystercatcher. But the curlew, a dull-plumaged fellow except when he shows his cinnamon underwings in flight, has a way of obliterating himself against sand and beach grass.

The American Oystercatcher (one of four living species) is distinctive and dramatic, with an orange-rimmed yellow eye in a black, lustrous head; flashing white lower breast, wing- and tail-patches; and especially that vermilion bill. At least four inches long, broad and flat, the oystercatcher's chisel beak would seem to be unmistakable. The only shore-bird with an approximately equivalent "shellcracker" is the even more mysterious crab plover—of the Indian Ocean.

With this amazing tool, the oystercatcher deals summarily with large quahogs, those tough-shelled clams that can turn a sturdy knife in—or into—a man's hand. The bladed bill can also chip off barnacles and, of course, separate the oyster clusters that are its specialty. These are adhesive, rough, powerful molluscs, as any skin diver or shellfisherman can attest.

Recently we heard two oystercatcher stories that further impressed us with the disparity between bird and human abilities. Our informant was Leroy Wilcox, well known for such banding records as a total of 1350 ospreys or, with Walter Terry, 16,000 bandings in one year. His specialty is plovers, but for ten years, he has been attentive to the Moriches Bay oystercatchers.

According to Leroy, relatively little is known about the American Oystercatcher, although this is one of the oldest native American birds, dating back to the Lower Miocene, with the earliest fossil-type found in Nebraska. These birds are hard to catch. Only 250 oystercatchers have been recorded by Regional Association banders in a 50-year period, Leroy having accounted for 80. There have been very few returns. He is luckier than most banders in this respect: of the 17 reported returns, he has had 15, mainly because he is the only bander to trap oystercatchers on their nests. One bird has been coming back for five years. The infrequency of returns may be attributable to bands rather than birds. American bands, of light alloy, do not last on the shorebirds because the abrasive sand soon blurs the numbers.

For all these reasons, even such a doughty birder as Wilcox has more questions than answers about the big black and white oystercatcher. For instance, at what age do the chick's black eye and bill turn to the bold colouration of the adult? Mr. Wilcox believes that the bird probably matures at two years, with the female 10% larger and heavier than the male. How long-lived is this big flier, with presumably few natural predators? The maximum age for which Wilcox can personally vouch is 10 years. European records, however, based upon sturdier bands, give oystercatcher ages to 25 years. (Perhaps the very stiff recognition requirements for hunting licenses in some European countries contribute to this longevity. (Friends in Fish and Wildlife, please heed!)

Our first story has to deal with another virtually unknown aspect not only of the oystercatcher but of bird life generally: how do they recognize their young? Some colonial birds, such as the penguin and perhaps its northern counterparts, the Alcidae, depend on voice. But what of the precocial chick that may put in his first appearance when the parents are not around? Some shorebird youngsters, such as the Piping Plover, feed themselves as soon as they are dry. Oystercatchers feed their semi-dependent offspring.

Leroy Wilcox had been watching a nesting pair near Hampton Bays since their mannerly, bowing courtship. There were two eggs in the clutch, which in the normal course of things hatched twenty-four hours apart. At the time the second one was pipping, the parents and the first-born were gadding along the beach.

Leroy took the pipped egg home. "Home" is the oldest duck farm on Long Island, well-equipped to deal with one more baby bird. Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox fed it minced clams every three hours. By the third day, they deemed it capable of holding its own with the unattentive parents and unknown sibling, on whose whereabouts the birder had been keeping tabs.

The sand-nesting birds care only for their own chicks, usually killing or at least driving off other youngsters that stray into their territory.

It was with double trepidation that Leroy Wilcox replaced his adoptee: how far had the "imprinting" process affected natural parent recognition, and would the oystercatchers accept the chick they had never seen?

The birds had no doubts. They raised both offspring with parental impartiality, and the temporary "foundling" never showed any human tendencies!

How did these adult birds know their own? To use the word "instinct" (if it happens to be stylish at the moment) is only passing the buck. We are still saying that we do not know. Fortunately, they do.

The second anecdote concerns another family of oystercatchers that Leroy banded at Moriches Inlet. It takes forty days from hatching to flight. Only one of the two chicks in this clutch survived to migrate with his parents. In November, Leroy watched them circle off.

Three months later, U.S. Fish and Wildlife sent him the band he had placed on one of the adult birds. It had been submitted to them by a duck-hunter whose name they also gave. He had killed it over Great South Bay, only a few wingbeats from its home.

On impulse, Mr. Wilcox telephoned the hunter and asked how he had happened to shoot an oystercatcher. The man replied that he had not intended to, that in token of his sincere regret and good faith he had sent in the band under his own name and address.

"But how did it happen?" Leroy persisted.

"Well, there were three of us in the blind, and we all thought it was a bufflehead," hunter replied defensively.

A bufflehead is a small duck, mostly white, with an almost crested white patch circling the head. It does have white wing-bars, as do plovers, willets, and mockingbirds, to name but a few. The hunter had "recognized" and fired at the oystercatcher's wing-bars.

One marvels at the respective cognitive faculties of birds and man.

We live at the bottom of a cone of mystery. From it come the provocative calls and songs of birds. The distant light flashes on the colours and shapes of another life-form. Some of us are impelled to probe the mystery, with encouraging but so far limited success. Others of us shoot at it.

The birds, inferior in imagination and intelligence, apparently find the universe much less puzzling. They fly in the open light and know what they are about.

226 Dix Hills Road, Huntington Station, New York 11746

NEW MEMBERS

Beck, Mrs. Jean K., Davis Motel, Schroon Lake, N.Y. 12870
S—Boise, Miss Cheryl M., Granville Hill Rd., Sherburne, N.Y. 13406
Frasier, Ron, R.D. #1, Dillenbeck Rd., Palatine Bridge, N.Y. 13428
Hanes, Miss Frances, 138 Melrose Ave., Utica, N.Y. 13502
Hanzich, Robert E., White E., Glen Spey, N.Y. 12737
S—Kontos, Steven, Box 231, Centereach, L.I., N.Y. 11720
Lawson, Mr. C. S., 2513 Richfield Blvd., Las Vegas, Nev. 89102
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Strain, Robert W., 123 William St. (College), New York, N.Y. 10038
S—Student Membership

NEW YORK STATE WILDLIFE PRESERVES

7. Rogers Environmental Education Center
Outstanding Birding Area in Chenango County, New York

CHERYL M. BOISE

During May of this spring (1974), when migration was at its peak, I had the opportunity to do an extensive amount of birding in central New York State, particularly Chenango and Madison Counties. In my search for good birding locations, I discovered that the Rogers Environmental Education Center (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation) is one of the best areas I have ever seen for migrating songbirds, especially warblers.

The Rogers Center, which was a New York State Game Farm until 1966, at which time it was converted to its present status, is located on Route 80 one mile west of the village of Sherburne. It consists of 571 acres of land with a range of habitats represented, including open fields, coniferous, mixed and deciduous woodlands, marshes, swamps and ponds. Centrally located are a picnic area and an interpretive building which houses offices, educational displays, a quite complete library and a gallery with outside microphones and spotting scopes which provide an overlook of a marsh. Four and one half miles of well-marked trails, provisioned with explanatory signs and displays are excellent birding routes. Along these trails also there is a large variety of wild flowers and other native plants, all conducive to interesting botanical study. Maps of the trails are conveniently located.

The total habitat of the Rogers Center seems to be particularly suited to spring migrants. The land borders the Chenango River, a tributary

of the Susquehanna River, and thus attracts birds migrating along this drainage system. While all sectors of the Center have good avian populations, I found two sites to be especially productive. One is the Spruce Ridge Trail, which has an access point from the main parking lot. This trail passes through about six acres of fairly dense spruce and pine plantation, and connects with other trails that cover different habitats. Although small in area, this plantation has a concentration of birds at various times. Large mixed flocks of warblers, including Yellow-rumped, Yellow, Bluewinged, Cape May, Magnolia and Yellowthroats occur here early in May. Other warblers, thrushes and sparrows are also seen here while migrating, but the total resident population of this area is limited.

The second, even more exciting area is the former Adams' property. This 140 acre area is located one mile west of the main parking lot. Turn right onto Williams Road, and right again about 100 yards down Williams Road.

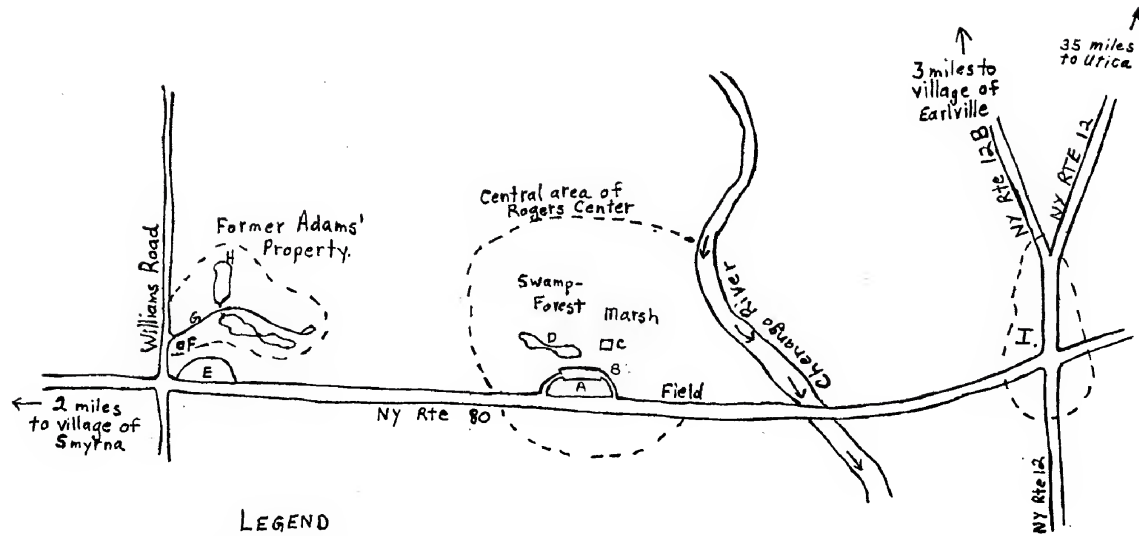
This is a dirt access road used primarily by fishermen who frequent the three ponds located here. The ponds also provide habitat for herons and ducks, and foraging spots for swallows. The dirt roads and marked trails (complete with catwalks over marshy spots) loop through mixed deciduous woods, open fields, and along a stream, ponds and a willow-lined canal. It was in these willows that I discovered a family (one female and two young) of Great Horned Owls. There were also a large number of warblers here, including those mentioned above as well as Black-and-white, Blackburnian, Tennessee, Wilson's, Canada, Northern Waterthrush and American Redstart. Here the resident population is quite large and varied. Besides more common species, I have seen the following here: Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Great Crested Flycatcher, Wood, Hermit and Swainson's Thrushes, Blue-grey Gnatcatcher, Yellow-throated, Solitary, Red-eyed and Warbling Vireos, Tree, Bank, Barn and Rough-winged Swallows, Scarlet Tanager, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Purple Finch and Indigo Bunting.

The variety of species which may be seen at the Rogers Environmental Education Center is due in part to the variety and quality of habitat provided, and in part to the protected status of this environment. These facts coupled with the educational stress at the Center, make the Center an outstanding and rewarding place to visit for all types of nature study, and for birding in particular.

Granville Hill Road, Sherburne, New York 13460

Map for locating Rogers Environmental Education Center

118



LEGEND

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| A. Main Parking Lot | E. Cemetery |
| B. Access to Spruce Ridge Trail | F. Storage Bldg. (white) |
| C. Interpretive Bldg. | G. Access Road to Adams' Property |
| D. Ice Pond | H. Fishing Ponds |
| I. Village of Sherburne | |



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Corrections or omissions should be called to the attention of the Bibliography Committee; Sally Hoyt Spofford, Chairman, John B. Belknap, Allen H. Benton, and Kenneth C. Parkes.

FIELD NOTES

King Rail Found in Newfield, New York: On Sunday April 28, 1974 I observed a road killed marsh bird on Route 13 approximately one mile north of the village of Newfield, New York. Believing the bird to be a Virginia Rail, a species on which I was currently conducting a study, I stopped and retrieved the specimen which was in good condition, although a scavenger, presumably avian, had fed on the internal organs. I immediately realized that it was a King Rail (*Rallus elegans*) rather than the smaller but similar appearing Virginia Rail.

The King Rail is a rare breeder in central New York, unreported in the Cayuga Lake Basin since 1969 when one was observed at Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge (Benning, 1969. *The Kingbird* 19(4):205). The only central New York specimen in the Cornell collection is a male (CU #1632) collected in Tompkins County on November 29, 1901 by H.R. Bristol. The current specimen, a male which will also be deposited with the Cornell University collection, was probably a migrant bird since the nearest suitable habitat is two miles from the site where it was found and its appearance coincided with the arrival locally of a variety of other spring migrants including Least Bitterns and Sora Rails.

The current status of the King Rail in central New York cannot be assessed on the basis of the limited number of observations available; however it seems reasonable to speculate that this species occurs here regularly. Considering the difficulty involved in getting good population estimates (or even good views) of any rail species, the King Rail's status will probably remain a mystery until extensive trapping and banding studies are undertaken on the Rallidae or, at the very least, until more field observers attempt to use taped call playbacks on many of the marshes in this portion of the state.

Douglas P. Kibbe, Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

Fish Crow in Ithaca New York: On March 16, 1974 the Alan Hahns heard and saw what appeared to be a Fish Crow in the Village of Cayuga Heights, Tompkins County, New York. They subsequently saw and heard it off and on until this writing, May 9, 1974. They observed the bird flying toward Cayuga Lake, and also found it twice in Stewart Park at the head of Cayuga Lake. Since the crow was always alone when perched, a size determination could not be made. The Hahns are familiar with the species from birding in southern United States.

As voice is important in identification of the Fish Crow, this bird's voice was recorded on April 8 by this writer, in the village in a suburban wooded area. The recording was made on a Norelco cassette tape recorder, with an 18" parabola. Since the Crow was high in a tree 200 feet away, near a brook roaring with spring run-off, the recording had to be made at the highest volume setting and background noise is consequently high. However the calls are clearly discernible. Using Leitz 10 x 40 binoculars on this 32 degree, sunny day, I could see that the bird was "shiny", but this character and comparative size could not be definitely determined in the absence of another crow. A two minute recording of the calls was made before it flew, and at no other time was any other type of vocalization heard by the writer or by the Hahns. No call was heard which resembled the Common Crow call.

Virginia Engelhard, bioacoustician of the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, compared the recording with the Fish Crow material in the Laboratory's Sound Library. Her conclusion was that all evidence pointed to its being a Fish Crow. For further verification, a copy was sent to Dr. Dwight Chamberlain, who has made extensive studies of crow vocalizations in North America. He stated that he was "99.9% sure that the voice was that of Fish Crow" and a colleague of his agreed.

Rollin Bauer of the Langmuir Laboratory, curator of the collection at the University, said there is no Fish Crow specimen from New York State in the collection, but Dr. Chamberlain discouraged the collection of this bird.

For an earlier report of a Fish Crow in central New York, see the Region 3 (Finger Lakes) report in *Kingbird* 17:161. The bird was reported by Wilfred Howard in Elmira in April, 1967. In the absence of a specimen it was listed as hypothetical.

Mildred C. Comar, 8 Highland Park Lane, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850

The Golden-winged Warbler in Northern New York: This is an updating of my report in the July 1970 "Kingbird". The status of this species in central New York up to about 1960 is given in separate reports by Scheider (1959) and the Benton (1960). Few data are available for areas north of Oswego and Cayuga counties. However in the vicinity of Kingston, Ontario, in the same latitude as northern Jefferson and southern St. Lawrence counties, the Golden-winged Warbler has been present since 1954 with breeding definitely established in 1961. (Quilliam 1973)

During the past four years I have found this species near the location of the nest discovered in 1970. This year (1974) singing males have been seen at eight or nine locations in the vicinity of Gouverneur, indicating a substantial increase. Since this is near the northern edge of the range of this species, observations in late May or early June are presumed to represent resident birds. It seems evident that the Golden-winged Warbler is now well established in this portion of southern St. Lawrence county, a northward expansion of the breeding range having taken place in the past fifteen years or more.

Substantiation comes from Tom Carrolan of Watertown who has advised me of several Golden-winged Warblers seen this spring in northern Jefferson area. —

J. B. Belknap, 92 Clinton St., Gouverneur, N.Y. 13642.

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An Interspecific Forage Band Predator Alarm Almost Backfires: When walking in the winter forests of New York State one may meet mixed-species groups of birds moving along together in loose associations searching for food. These groups, known technically as interspecific forage bands, usually include members of the tit, nuthatch, creeper, kinglet, and woodpecker families. Similar interspecific forage bands are found in winter temperate zone forests in many parts of the world and have been the focus of much research. These bands are believed to allow more efficient use of limited winter food supplies. A secondary advantage of interspecific banding is that they provide a better predator alarm system, theoretically because the many eyes and ears of the band make it less probable that a predator could approach undetected. When one band member spots a predator its calls alert the whole band. However, this alarm system may backfire as shown by an incident I witnessed while studying interspecific forage bands in Monroe County during the winter of 1973-74.

On the morning of 1/20/74 I was following a band composed of 8 Black-capped Chickadees, 2 White-breasted Nuthatches, 2 Brown Creepers, and a Red-bellied Woodpecker moving through a section of deciduous woods in the southeast corner of Mendon Ponds Park. As usual the foraging birds ignored me as I watched quietly from a distance, recording data. As the band moved along it was joined by 6 Tufted Titmice and 2 Golden-crowned Kinglets. They, too, ignored me at first. However, as I started to move to a new observation position the titmice began calling in alarm and proceeded to 'mob' me. (Mobbing is a group action typically directed at a potential predator which is not actually threatening the group at the moment; for instance crows and jays will mob owls in the daytime). The nuthatches and some of the chickadees joined the mobbing titmice, approaching me and scolding loudly.

Thus far the band's predator alarm system had functioned as it should. A potential predator (myself) had been recognized and the alarm sounded. However, while most of the band was preoccupied with me, a real predator was approaching. Out of the corner of my eye I saw a Cooper's Hawk flying swiftly through the trees toward the band, attracted, I believe, by the noise of the mobbing birds. As the hawk passed less than 20 feet over my head, it noticed me for the first time and veered sharply away. Only then did the mobbing birds of the interspecific forage band see the hawk and fall silent.

This example demonstrates that while the interspecific forage band alarm system may help warn members of potential predators, its activation against one predator may absorb the attention of the members, making them vulnerable to other predators which may actually be attracted by the functioning alarm system.

Christopher Gates, 41 West Brook Road, Pittsford, N.Y. 14534

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SPRING SEASON

GORDON M. MEADE

FOR

F. C. SCHEIDER

April's weather shifted frequently between periods of above normal temperatures and those of cold, snow and strong winds. The first week gave promise of an early raptor migration in Region 5 on southerly winds. The 8th and 9th brought heavy snow in western, central & southern tier regions. So it went with warm periods again in mid-month and at the end. Although overall the monthly temperature average was somewhat above normal, the snow, cold, rain and strong N and NE winds resulted in a migration which in most areas was sluggish and minimal.

May too was cold, cloudy and rainy during the first half, again with strong northerly winds. Migratory waves were few and many arrivals were a week late; they found foliage retarded and insect supply short. Region 2 experienced a quite spectacular warbler "wave" on the 15th — the kind you dream about — 23 species in one morning in one city park in large numbers. Region 1 reports that conditions delayed nesting so that when warm weather arrived, there was a nesting explosion with many nests lower than usual due to the retarded leafing.

Despite the adverse weather conditions the diligent observer managed to find a mouth-watering collection of the unusual and the rare. The list is long and only a few will be pointed out here. The Cinnamon Teal at MNWR may have been the male of a pair seen earlier at Iroquois NWR — an exciting find. A Black Vulture at Derby Hill was a remarkable first for Region 5. Golden Eagle reports came from Region 2, 4 & 9 — the species seems to be seen now more often than the Bald Eagle. Peregrines from Regions 2 & 5 show a few are left. The Cattle Egret continues its establishment in upstate New York with appearance of 16 in Region 2 and 1 in 5. Possibly prophetic were the Little Blue Herons in Regions 1, 5 & 9. Two Hudsonian Godwits at MNWR constitute the first spring record for Region 3. For the second consecutive year a Willet appeared at Braddock's Bay (Region 2). An interesting question is whether these come from the eastern or western populations. The increasing frequency of reports of Ruffs (Regions 1 & 3) in this state and elsewhere in the east suggests the possibility of a breeding population on this continent. The Little Gull continues its increase (Regions 2 & 5). A Raven in the Adirondack foothills at Big Moose is in accord with a quite evident increase within the central mountains in the past several years. Is the White-eyed Vireo another more southerly species which is beginning to move north (Regions 1 & 2)? Region 2,

3, 5 & 9 enjoyed sightings of uncommon warblers — Worm-eating, Orange-crowned, Yellow-throated, Prairie, Kentucky and Connecticut. The Western Meadowlark steadily probes eastward with pioneers — this year near Syracuse (Region 5). An errant Yellow-headed Blackbird showed up in Dutchess Co. (Region 9). Success in colonizing western New York by the House Finch is evident in 30 recorded at Eggertsville near Buffalo (Region 1). The incursion of Hoary Redpolls of the past winter probably came to an end with two from April 4-13 at a feeder in Perinton (Region 2). Dickcissels appeared widely in Regions 1, 3 & 9 and the Clay-colored Sparrow like the Western Meadowlark continues to send "pioneers" into the state. What will be its status here in 25 years?

Your attention is called to the perceptive and succinct observations of Fritz Scheider on negative and positive aspects of the spring season as he saw them in Region 5.

The Federation's first annual May Big Day in the May 11-19 period brought responses from 16 clubs and two individual parties to tally up 247 species and one hybrid (Brewster's Warbler). The full count will be published later but a few points merit comment. Missing were Whistling Swan, Peregrine, Whimbrel, Caspian Tern, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Loggerhead Shrike (this last has become a very scarce bird in western New York). Outstanding species were Little Blue Heron, Louisiana Heron, Surf Scoter, Merlin, Turkey (37 on Allegany B.C. count), Black Rail (seen), Piping Plover, Purple Sandpiper (late), Ruff, Little Gull, Roseate Tern, Acadian Flycatcher, Brewster's Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Western Meadowlark, Summer Tanager, Red & White-winged Crossbills and two very late Tree Sparrows.

No reports received from Regions 8 and the report from Region 10 was received too late to be included in the Highlights.

27 Mill Valley Road, Pittsford, N.Y. 14534

REGION 1 — NIAGARA FRONTIER

VIVIAN MILLS PITZRICK

Early April gave promise of Spring at last with warm days and a record high of 75° on the 4th, the day after numerous tornadoes touched down in States far east of their usual path. But for the Count Day, April 7th about an inch of snow cover brought birds, especially the Dark-eyed Junco, out of fields to the bare roadsides. When the 10th found six to ten inches of snow on the ground and small lakes forming skim ice, migrants, on the move during the earlier warm weather, flocked to feeders. Although on seven days the temperature reached 70° or above, the nights were cold, giving a mean for the month of 47.5°. S. Eaton's half-acre pond near Vandalia was free of ice April 2nd, the "mean date for 20 years of records."

For May, mean temperature was only 5.8° higher than April even though a maritime tropical air mass moved in for a few days on the 14th, and again on the 21st, sending temperatures above 80°. By Count Day, May 19th, leaves were little developed at higher elevations making ideal warbler watching—but, of course, here there were few warblers to watch. The cold period during the first half of the month delayed not only many arrivals but also the nesting season, causing a nesting explosion when warmer weather finally arrived. With sparse leafy cover, many of these first nests were lower than usual.

Although for the most part it was a sluggish spring migration, we did have several rare species: Little Blue Heron, Cattle Egret, Snowy Egret, Goshawk, Western Sandpiper, Ruff, White-eyed Vireo, Dickcissel, and House Finch.

A fine April-May Banding Report came in from Don Clark, Farmersville Station. Of the 816 banded, the only migrant warblers were Cape May 1, Yellow-rumped 28, Palm 3 and Wilson's 6. Migrant finches and sparrows were a little better: Evening Grosbeak 77, Pine Siskin 29, Dark-eyed Junco 141, Tree Sparrow 57, White-crowned Sparrow 2, White-throated Sparrow 40, Fox Sparrow 1, and Lincoln's Sparrow 1.

Of interest were two Whistling Swans noted by Steve Eaton 5 miles west of Olean on April 16th with identification collars ("research—W. Sladen, John Hopkins Univ.") Several other unusual reports are included in the regular compilation below.

Since only the Allegany County Bird Club reported on the April and May Buffalo Ornithological Society Counts, these records are incomplete. However, "Noteworthy" sightings covered many areas and indicate more of the over-all spring picture.

Abbreviations: AC—Allegany County; AL—Amity Lake; Alf—Alfred; ApC—BOS April 7th Count; Bflo—Buffalo; BgS—Burgeson Sanctuary, Frewsburg; BIm—Belmont; BMWR—Beaver Meadow Wildlife Refuge; BOS—Buffalo Ornithological Society; BOSWR—BOS Wildlife Refuge, Grand Island, Catt—Cattaraugus; Cb—Cuba; Chaut—Chautaugua; FrSt—Farmersville Station; GI—Grand Island; INWR—Iroquois National Wildlife Refuge; Jms—Jamestown; Keeney—Keeney Swamp, T/Birdsall, AC; MaC—BOS May 19th Count; mob—many observers, N—Nest; No—North; Ne—New; Nia—Niagara; OO—Oak Orchard; OOGMA—Oak Orchard Game Management Area; P—Pond; St Bon—Saint Bonaventure; T/—Township of; TGMA—Tonawanda Game Management Area; Wlsv—Wellsville.

Contributors; RA—Robert Andrie; EB—Elizabeth Brooks; DB—Doris Burton; LB—Lou Burton; DC—Donald Clark; JC—Jane Clark; SE—Stephen Eaton; VP—Vivian Pitzrick.

Observers; TB—Thomas Bourne; DD—Dorothy Danner; FD—Frances DeGroff; FE—Flora Elderkin; CF—Christine Ferrand; MH—Milton Hampton; NI—Norman Ives; RhK—Rhea Keople; RK—Robert Keople; HK—Harriette Klabunde; WK—Walter Klabunde; CK—Clarence Klingensmith; EL—Erma Larson; AM—Alice McKale; WM—Willard McKale; HM—Harold Mitchell; JaM—Jane Moore; JiM—James (Jim) Moore; KP—Katherine Palmer; EP—Elizabeth Pillsbury; RP—Raymond Pitzrick; OS—O. Smith; RS—Robert Sundell; JT—Joseph Thill; AU—Alice Ulrich; AV—Allan Valentine; RW—Robert Wagner; MaW—Margaret Wendling; MW—Marie Wendling; LW—Larry Wilson; RY—Raymond Yelle.

LOONS—DUCKS; 21 ACAPC; 6 ACMAc; last of season: 1 May 31 (RK,RhK). Horned Grebe: 123 ACAPC; 2800 Apr 2 OOGMA (Meddaugh); 250 Apr 2 INWR (JM); 50 Apr 8 CbL (RK,RhK,OS). Pied-billed Grebe: 31 ACAPC; 4 ACAPC. Double-crested Cormorant: 1 May 6 Athol Springs (TB). Great Blue

Heron: 20 ACAPC; 23 ACMAc; heronry reports from AC: a new one discovered by B. Mills at Wiscoy last fall has at least 6 active nests this May (JaM, JiM); Alma Hill, Feathers Creek and T/Ward heronries have declined sharply (M. Stohr, RY, VP) with 1 ad found shot below one, June 4 T/Ward (NI); Cuba heronry: 9 ad (at least 3 Yo) May 1-31 (RK, RhK); max sighted, other areas: 18, 9 Apr 21, 27 over Allegany Rd., Irving (RA, *et al*). Green Heron: 35 ACMAc; arr: 1 Apr 21 Alf (EB) and BLM (DB, LB). *LITTLE BLUE HERON*: 1 ad May 18 INWR JM, Heck, Rebovich). *CATTLE EGRET*: 1 May 2 INWR (JM, *et al*) 3 May 17 Frewsburg (FE, *et al*). Great Egret: one ACAPC; several sightings, all singles: arr Apr 5, 11, 17 T/Hume (KP); Apr 12 Wiscoy (M. Pitzrick); Apr 15 Wlsv (CF, EL); Apr 16, 18 Wlsv (DB, LB); Apr 28 Hartson Rd, Falconer (FE); Apr 30 Rice Rd., (DD); May 11, 21 INWR, TGMA (JM, Heck). *SNOWY EGRET*: one May 11 Tift St. Bflo (Schaffner, Clark), and one May 12 INWR (JM, *et al*). Black-crowned Night Heron: first 2 Apr 13 INWR (JM); 1 Apr 21 Lyndonville (Smith); 6 May 8 Nia F (Brockner, AU). Least Bittern: 2 May 18 Tift St, Bflo (Schaffner, Clark); 1 May 30 E- Eden P(TB). American Bittern: 5 ACMAc; arr: 1 Apr 12 CbS (RK, RhK); 1 May 18 Little Genesee (FD).

Whistling Swan: 25 ACAPC; 253 Apr 1, 11 still there Apr 30 Cb L α M(RK, RhK, DB, LB); 16 Apr 1 T/Hume (KP); 24 Apr 3-30 Langford (TB); 4 Apr 13 TGMA (RA, *et al*); over Woodlawn (RA); 4 (Imm) May 24 α 25 T/Hume (KP, *et al*). Canada Goose: 468 ACAPC; 2 ACMAc; max: 29,200 Apr 10 INWR (JM); 1735 May 8 INWR (JM); also: 2 Ad 5 Yo May 24 T/Hume (KP, *et al*); 2 May 28 Sheldon (HM, Clark). Snow Goose: 2 Apr 14 Caneadea (H. Hale); last of season: 1 Apr 16 Barker (JT).

Ducks were well represented on ACAPC: Mallard 156, Black Duck 97, Pintail 5, Green-winged Teal 8, Blue-winged Teal 68, American Wigeon 2, Northern Shoveler 3, Wood Duck 14, Redhead 12, Ring-necked Duck 132, Canvasback 27, Scaup 1706, Common Goldeneye 18, Bufflehead 112, Oldsquaw 12, Hooded Merganser 78, Common Merganser 10, Red-breasted Merganser 40. Sighted on the ACMAc: Mallard 63, Black Duck 3, Blue-winged Teal 5, Wood Duck 27, Hooded Merganser 1, Common Merganser 6. Most of these were reported in May from several areas of the Region with three additional species appearing, but not on Count days: Gadwall: 2 May 7,16 00(Brockners, AU). White-winged Scoter: 1 Apr 28 4-mi Creek St Pk (WK, HK) and 1 May 15 Pt Gratiot, Dunkirk (Schaffner, Clark); and Ruddy Duck: 1 Apr 1 Cb M(DB, LB); 13 Apr 3 Chaut L (FE, EP); 14 Apr 11 Chaut L (RS); 1 Apr 11 INWR (JM). Noteworthy early duck sightings were: Northern Shoveler: 1 Apr 1 Cb M(DB, LB); 6 Apr 1 Bg S(FE); 5 Apr 3 Langford (Rochester, Webb); Hooded Merganser: 16 Apr 7 Beaver Meadow (Bigelow).

HAWKS-OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 2 ACAPC; 16 ACMAc; 1 Apr 2 Blm (DB, LB); max: 51 Apr 3 Irving (Rochester, Webb). *GOSHAWK*: 1 ACAPC; 1 ACMAc; 1 Apr 6 AC (RP, VP); 2 Apr 16 T/Alma (DB, LB); 1 + N May 17 Bolivar (Smith); 3+ N May 23, 28 T/Almond (RY, DB, LB). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 5 ACAPC; 2 ACMAc; max reports: 90 over Irving (RA, *et al*); 107 Apr 21 over Hamburg (RA, *et al*); 133 Apr 21 Ft. Nia St Pk (JT); only reports other than count for May: singles: May 4 Forest Lawn Cem. Bflo (HM, MW, MaW), May 3 Little Genesee (FD), and May 8 INWR (Heck). Cooper's Hawk: very scarce: 4 ACAPC; 5 ACMAc; 1 +N Apr 15 T/Willing (NI); individuals reported from a few areas in Apr and none in May other than count. Red-tailed Hawk: seems to be holding its own: 59 ACAPC; 81 ACMAc; max: 25 Apr 14 over Irving (RA, *et al*). Red-shouldered Hawk: 7 ACAPC; 1 Apr 4-30 Alf (EB); 8 Apr 3 Irving (Rochester, Webb), 2 Apr 7 Alf (CK); 9 Apr 14 Irving (RA, *et al*); 1 + N May 3 T/Birdsall KP, A α J Mullen); 4 May

Wanakah (Brockners, AU); 1 May 28 T/Birdsall (CK). Broad-winged Hawk: 17 ACMaC; arr (two days early): 1 Apr 13 Beaver Meadow (Bigelow, *et al*); max for migration: 234 Apr 21 over Hamburg (RA, *et al*); 1978 Apr 21 over Irving (RA, *et al*); 230 Apr 21 Ft Nia St Pk (JT); 115 Apr 27 over Hanover (RS, *et al*); 343 Apr 27 and 132 Apr 27 and 132 Apr 28 over Hamburg (RA, *et al*); 1 ad on N Apr 17 AL (VP); 2 ad defending N May 18 Scio (VP); up to 6 in several areas all May. Rough legged Hawk: very few: 2 CACpC; 1 Apr Irving (RA, *et al*); 1 Apr 19Cb (RK, RhK); 1 May 8 GI (Brockner,, AU). Bald Eagle: six reports first: 1 Apr 3 Irving (Rochester, Webb); singles Apr 16 Lyndonville (Smith), Apr 19 Springwater (VP), Apr 21 Irving (RA, *et al*), Apr 21 Ft Nia Pk (JT), and May 25 over Hamburg (TB). Marsh Hawk: 7 ACAPC; 11 ACMpC; ACMaC; several sightings, max: 5 Apr 1 Langford (Rochester, Pruss); 10 Apr 13 T/Evans (RA, *et al*); 5, 2, Apr 14, 21 Irving (RA, *et al*). Osprey: a number of reports: 1 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 1 Langford Rochester, Pruss); latest: 1 May 19 Cb L (RK, RhK). American Kestrel: 91 ACAPC; 30 ACMaC; highest reports: 14 Apr 1 Langford (Rochester, Pruss) and 10 Apr 3 Irving (Rochester, Webb).

Ruffed Grouse: ACAPC; 21 ACMpC; very few other reports. Ring-necked Pheasant: 2 ACAPC; 8 ACMaC; very scarce. Turkey "winter flocks of toms breaking up and associating with 3 to 8 hens" Mar 27 Catt C (SE); reported in very low numbers: 2 ACAPC; 37 ACMaC. Virginia Rail: first of season and only report: 1 May 5 Bgs (FF). Sora: 1 ACMaC; arr: 2 Apr 21 Clarence (AM, WM); 1 May 2 Bgs (FE). Common Gallinule: 2 ACMaC; arr: 2, 1 Apr 28 Porter, Wilson (AM, WM); 2 Apr 29 Keeney S(KP); 1 May 7 E Eden P (TB); 3, 1 May 3, 23 T/Birdsall (KP, JaM). American Coot: 12 ACAPC; 1 ACMaC. Semipalmated Plover: arr: 1 May 9 TGMA (Rebovich), the only report. Killdeer: 339 ACAPC; 171 ACMaC. Black-bellied Plover: one report: arr: 1 May 14 Frewsburg (FE, VanGuilder).

American Woodcock: 11 ACAPC; 5 ACMaC, max 7 Apr 1-30, 3 Apr 2 Alf (CK); 4 May 10 AL(VP). Whimbrel: 1 May 26 Cb (RK, RhK). Common Snipe: 30 ACAPC; 6 ACMaC. Upland Sandpiper: 1 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 18 Eden (TB); 6 Apr 21 over Irving (RA, *et al*); 2 Apr 35, 29 T/Granger (KP); 2, 5 May 3, 11 T/Birdsall (KP, JaM). Spotted Sandpiper: 28 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 22 T/Hume (KP). Solitary Sandpiper: 7 ACMaC; arr: Apr 21 Irving (RA, *et al*); Apr 22 Alf, EB); 1 Apr 26 INWR (Heck, JM); 3 May 10 Blm (DB, LB). Greater Yellowlegs: 2 ACAPC; 1 Apr 1 INWR (Olsen; 1 Apr 14 T/Hume (KP); 1 Apr 23 Cb (RK, RhK); 1 May 3 Blm (DB, LB). Lesser Yellowlegs: 2 ACMaC; arr: 3 Apr 21 Clarence (AM, WM). Pectoral Sandpiper: 2 ACAPC; 180 Apr 14 over Irving (RA, *et al*); 50 Apr 18 TGMA (JM, Rebovich); 115 Apr 21 Clarence Sinks (AM, WM); latest: 3 May 16 T/Alabama (Brockners). Least Sandpiper: arr: 1 May 8 TGMA (Rebovich), 3 May 11 Bflo (Schaffner, Clark). Dunlin arr two days early: 1 Apr 19 TGMA (Rebovich). Short-billed Dowitcher: arr 3 May 16 T/Alabama (Brockners); 1 May 30 TGMA (Rebovich). Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr: 2 May 16 T/Alabama (Brockners). WESTERN SANDPIPER: one seen May 21 near Steamburg (FE). RUFF: one May 24 at TGMA (JM, Rebovich).

Glaucous Gull: one Apr 23 at Athol Springs (TB). Great Black-backed Gull: 1,2 May 2,14 Dunkirk (Brockners, AU). Herring Gull: 25 ACAPC; 22 ACMaC Ring-Billed Gull: 10 ACAPC; 2000 Apr 21 Ft Nia St. Pk (JT). Common Tern: arr 3 Apr 21 Ft. Nia St. Pk (JT) and 3 Apr 21 Silver Creek (RW, *et al*); Caspian Tern: arr: 11 Apr 19 Bflo Harbor (RA, *et al*); 4 Apr 24 (AV, Byron). Black Tern: arr a day early: 8 Apr 28 Mud L, Ont (RW, *et al*); 3 May 9 AL (RP, VP). Mourning Dove: 192 ACAPC; 205 ACMaC. Cuckoo - It is good to have them back-: Yellow-billed: 5 ACMaC; Black-billed: 14 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 11 Hamburg (TB); 1 May 15 Spring Brook (DD); 1 May 15 Gowanda (Brock-

ners); 2 May 20 AL (VP); 1 May 28 Alf (EB); 1 May 30 Alf (CK). Screech Owl: 5 ACAPC; 3 ACAPC; no other reports. Great Horned Owl: 7 ACAPC; 6 ACAPC; 6 ACMaC; 1 a +1 yo in N Apr 13-18 Blm (D. Presutti, DB, LB, *et al*); 1, 1 (dead) Apr 2, 4 Alf (EB); 1 Apr 16 AL (VP); 1 May 30 T/Ward (RY). Snowy Owl: stayed with us until May 4 when one was sighted at Maple Rd., Amherst (AM, WM, HM); individuals appeared: Apr 2 Bflo H (RA), Apr 4 Maple Rd, Amherst (AM, WM), Apr 12 Lewiston, Riverdale Cem (HK, WK), and Apr 24 Bflo H (AV, Byron). Barred Owl: 2 ACMaC; 2 Apr 21 Alf (EB); 1 May 10 AL (RP). Long-eared Owl: 1 Apr 29 BgS (FE, *et al*); 1 w. N May 4-23 Beaver Meadow WR (mob). Short-eared Owl: 8 Apr 7 rt 77 near TGMA (JM, Rebovich).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLING: Whip-poor-will: arr 1 May 2 T/Hamburg (RA); 1 May 15 INWR (Olsen). Common Nighthawk: 9 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 17 Elma (Kikta); 1 May 22 Alf (CK); 2 May 24 Blm (DB, LB); 3 May 30 Alf (EB); 2 May 30, 31 Wlsv (EL). Chimney Swift: 1100 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 21 Irving (RA, *et al*); Wlsv (EL). St Bon U (SE); 3 Apr 28 Jms (RS). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 67 ACMaC; arr right on schedule: 1 Apr 29 (RK, RhK); 1 May 3 Eden (Rochester); 1 May 13 Blm (DB, LB); 3 May 22 Little Genesee (FD). Belted Kingfisher: reported only from AC: 38 ACAPC; regular sightings Apr α May AC(mob).

Common Flicker: 57 ACAPC; 163 ACMaC. Pileated Woodpecker: 12 ACAPC; 9 ACMaC. Red-bellied Woodpecker: 9 ACAPC; 6 ACMaC; 2, 1 May 2, 4 T/Hamburg (RA, TB). Hairy Woodpecker: 144 ACAPC; 98 ACMaC. Downy Woodpecker: 239 ACAPC; 109 ACMaC. Eastern Kingbird: 186 ACMaC; arr a week late: 1 May 3 TWMA (Rebovich); 1 May 4 AL (VP). Great Crested Flycatcher: 54 ACMaC; 1 May 2 AL (VP); 1 May 7 00 (Brockner, AU). Eastern Phoebe: 82 ACAPC; 186 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 1 Alf (EB); 1 Apr 2 AL (VP); 1 Apr 14 Spring Brook (DD). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: arr: 1 May 11 Spring Brook (DD); 1 May 30 New Oregon (TB). Alder Flycatcher: arr: 1-May 17 Busti (EP); 4 ACMaC; 1 May 19 Clymer (FE, EP); 2 May 18 Alf (EB); 1 May 27 AL (VP); 1 May 28 T/Birdsall (CK). Willow Flycatcher: arr: 1 May 17 Frewsburg (FE); 1 May 18 INWR (Heck, JM, Rebovich); 2 May 28 AL (VP). Least Flycatcher: 53 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 29 Lewiston (HK, WK); 1 May 1 Hamburg (Rochester); 1 May 7 Wlsv (EL). Eastern Wood Pewee: 28 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 14 Spring Brook (DD); 1 May 15 BgS (EP). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 May 25 Lyondonville (HM, Smith); 1 May 25 FrSt (VP, KP, *et al*); 1 May 26 Prospect L. Cem, Hamburg (TB). Horned Lark: 148 ACAPC; 24 ACAPC; 2 May 26 T/Alma (DB, LB).

Tree Swallow: 10 ACAPC; 313 ACMaC; 5 Apr 1 INWR (JM); 150 Apr 23 Alf (EB); 3 May 1 Langford (Rochester, Pruss). Bank Swallow: 122 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 21 Clarence (AM, WM); 1 Apr 25 Keeney (KP); 30 May 11 Alf (EB); 4 May 1 Angola (Brockner). Rough-winged Swallow: 31 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 14 Irving (RA, *et al*); 1 May T/Ne. Hudson (DB, LB). Barn Swallow: 862 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 12 INWR (Olsen); 1 Apr 17 Alf (CK). Cliff Swallow: 90 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 25 INWR (JM); 4 May 5 Ft Erie, Ont (RW, *et al*); 20 May 18 Alf (EB). Purple Martin: 318 ACMaC; arr: 4 Apr 3 INWR (Silvermail); 1 Apr 4 Chaut L (RS; up to 6 May 5-31 Blm (DB, LB).

Blue Jay: 604 ACAPC; 608 ACMaC. Common Crow: 1598 ACAPC; 674 ACMaC. Black-capped Chickadee: 731 ACAPC; 482 ACMaC. Tufted Titmouse: 3 ACAPC; 1 ACMaC; 1 to 2 (feeder) Apr 1-30 and 1 feeding yo May 31 Spring Brook (DD); 1 Apr 12 BOSWR, GI (HK, WK); 1 Apr 27 Fillmore (Richardson); 1 May 1 12 T/Hamburg (Brockner, Ra, TB); 1 May 11 Alf (EB); 1 May 12 Ont (RW, *et al*). White-breasted Nuthatch: 224 ACAPC; 170 ACMaC. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 14 ACAPC; 5 ACMaC; seen at several scattered locations:

1 Apr 1 Orchard Pk (Saville); 2 Apr 1 Little Genesee (FD); 1 Apr 9 Lewiston (HK, MK); 1 May 3 T/Birdsall (DB, LB); 1 May 9, 10 Wlsv (EL); 1 May 15 Dunkirk (Schaffner, Clark); May 28 Keeney (CK); 1 May 28 Alf (CK). Brown Creeper: 25 ACAPC; 11 ACMaC; up to 4 Apr 4–30 Alf (EB); 2 Apr 5 Little Genesee (FD); 4 Apr 12 Cb (RK, RhK); 2 Apr 16 T/Alma (DB, LB); 3 Apr 17 AL (VP); 1 Apr 18 T/Hume (KP); 1 May 11 T/Birdsall (KP, J α A Mullen). House Wren: 225 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 21: Alf (EB) and Cb (RK, RhK). Winter Wren: 4 ACAPC; 8 ACMaC; 1 Apr 6 N. Buffo (Wilcove); 1 Apr 7 Alf (CK); 1, 1, 2, 1 Apr 11, 13, 177, May 21 Alf (EB). Carolina Wren: 5 ACAPC; 2 many reports: 1 to 2 Apr 1–May 31 Spring Brook (DD); individuals: Apr 21 18-mi Creek, L Short Rd (RW, *et al*), Apr 25 Fillmore (LM), Apr 25 Lighthouse Pt, Chaut L (RS), Apr 27 Irving (HM, RS, *et al*), Apr 30 Ne. Oregon (TB, May 5, 19 W. Seneca (Kikta), and May 12 Crescent B, Ont (RM, *et al*); 3 May 14 Wind's Pk, Derby (Brockners, AU). Long-billed Marsh Wren: arr: 1 May 9 TGMA (Rebovich).

Mockingbird: singles reported: Apr 12 GI (HK, WK), Apr 24 Hamburg (TB), Apr 24 Wlsv (EL), Apr 28 Wilson (AM, WM), May 22 INWR (JM). Gray Catbird: first 2 ACAPC; 274 ACMaC; 1 May 3 N. Boston (Brockners, AU); 1 May 7 OO (Brockners); 2 May 12 Blm (DB, LB. Brown Thrasher: 1 ACAPC; 57 ACMaC. American Robin: 6353 ACAPC; 2330 ACMaC. Wood Thrush: 125 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 25 Lakeside Cem, Hamburg (TB); 1 Apr 28 Fillmore (Richardson); 1 Apr 30 Alf (EB). Hermit Thrush: 2 ACAPC; 18 ACMaC; 1 N. Bflo (Wilcove); 1 Apr 26 T/Hume (KP); 2 May 3 T/Birdsall (DB, LB). Swainson's Thrush: 1 ACAPC; arr 1 Apr: 28 Ft Erie, Ont (RF, *et al*); 4 May 3 T/Birdsall ((DB, LB). Gray-cheeked Thrush: 1 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 15 Gowanda (Brockners); 1 May 18 Tift St, Bflo (Clark); 1 May 27 Hamburg (TB). Veery: 15 ACMaC; arr 1 May 7 Spring Brook (DD); 2 May 11 Canadaway Crk Sanct (AV, Patterson); 2 May 11 T/Birdsall (KP, A α J Mullen). Eastern Bluebird: 24 ACAPC; 57 ACMaC; good reports all season; 12 (incl 8 Yo) May 24 AL (VP).

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: no reports, AC; arr: 1 Apr 17 Lakeside Cem, Hamburg (TB); 1 Apr 21 INWR (AM, WM); 1 May 2 Canadaway Crk Sanct (Brockner); 30 Canadaway Cr, Pt Gratiot on May 3 (EP); 1 May Spring Brook (DD); 1 May 5 INWR (JM); 1 May 5 Pt Abino, Ont (RW, *et al*); 1 May 16 OO (Brockners). Golden-crowned Kinglet: 110 ACAPC; 15 ACMaC; good reports: max: 10 May 16 AL (VP) and 10 Apr 4–22 Alf (EB); past date, but in known AC breeding areas: 3 May 28 T/Birdsall (CK) and 2 ad feeding 2 yo out of N May 28 Alf (EB). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 12 ACMaC; arr: 5 Apr 4 Spring Brook (DD); several reports of numbers up to 6 until last: 1 May 21 Spring Brook (DD). Water Pipit: 27 ACAPC; 6 ACMaC; 20 Apr 8 Vandalia (SE); 8 Apr 9 Cb (RK, RhK); 1 Apr 9 Jms (RS); 20 Apr 24 Elma (DD); last of season 5 May 19 Langford (Rochester). Cedar Waxwing: only 2 ACAPC; 60 ACMaC; from other reports max: 35 May 10, 13 Alf (CK). Northern Shrike: 1 ACAPC. Loggerhead Shrike: 1 Apr 4 OOGMA (Rochester, Pruss); 1 Apr 26 INWR (Heck, Olsen). Starling: 5748 ACAPC; 1348 ACMaC.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: *WHITE-EYED VIREO*: 1 May 5 Ft Erie, Ont (RW, Frachias). Yellow-throated Vireo: 1 ACMaC; arr 1 May 5 Spring Brook (DD); 1 May 11 Elma (Kikta). Solitary Vireo: 5 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 21 Jms (BS); 1 Apr 22 Alf (EB); 1 Apr 26 BgS (FE); 1 Apr 28 10-mi Crk, Eatons (SE); 1 May 11 T/Birdsall (KP, A α J Mullen) up to 3 May 1–31 Alf (EB); 1 May 16 AL (VP). Red-eyed Vireo: 104 ACMaC; arr right on time: 1 May 5 BMWR (Brockner). Philadelphia Vireo: 4 ACMaC; several reports: arr: 1 May 11 T/Aurora (AV); May 15 Lakeside Cem, Hamburg (TB); 1 May 15 BgS (EP); 1, 3 May 16, 21 Spring Brook (DD); 1 May 21 TGMA (Rebovich); 2 May 22

Tift St, Bflo (Schaffner, Clark); last: 1 May 25 Lyndonville (HM, Smith). Warbling Vireo: 10 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 7 Wlsv (EL); 1 May 8 Lewiston (Brockner, AU); 2 May 10 Spring Brook (DD).

Warblers: 32 species plus one hybrid were reported, averaging 6.6 days late in arriving according to the BOS Data Guide. Observers commonly remarked, "There was a good selection of species but usually only one or two of a kind." The expected large flocks of Yellow-rumped reached only a max 12 May 3 and 4 at Alfred (EB) and Amity Lake (VP). At Clarks' Wildlife Refuge and banding station, Farmersville Station, "warblers never did arrive." (DC) For the Region there was a good variety: Black-and-White: 4 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 28 4-mi Crk St Pk, Lewiston (HK, WK). Prothonoary: one of these rare ones appeared on ACMaC observed by several and well described (RY, *et al*); arr: 1 May 11 INWR (Olsen); 2 May 16 OO (Brockners). Golden-winged: 3 ACMaC; four reports: arr: 1 May 2 Irving (Brockners); 1 May INWR (Olsen); 2 May 19 Alf (EB); 1 May 27 AL (VP). Blue-winged: 34 ACMaC; arr on time: 1 May 2 Spring Brook (DD) and 1 May 2 N. Davis Rd., Elma (Kikta). Brewster's (hybrid): unusual: 1 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 19 Chaut (RS) and 1 May 18 AL (VP). Tennessee: 10 ACMaC; several reports: arr: 1 May 14 Cb (RK, RhK); 1 May 15 near TGMA (Rebovich, *et al*); 1 May 15 No Boston (Brockners); 1, 1 May 26,29 Almond, T/Ward (RY). Orange-crowned: hard to find and only one report: arr (19 days late): 1 May 19 Spring Brook (DD) (should be on unreceived BOS May Count). Nashville: 23 ACMaC; arr: 1; 1; 2 Apr 28 4-mi Crk St Pk; Bflo; Canadian Shore (HK, WK; Wilcove; RW, *et al*). Parula: only two sightings: arr: 1 May 14 Athol Springs (Brockners, AU) and 1 May 19 Tift St, Bflo (Schaffner, Clark, *et al*) (the latter should be on unreceived BOS May Count). Yellow: 373 ACMaC; arr: Apr 25 Lake-side Cem, Hamburg (TB). Magnolia: 41 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 12 Crescent B, Ont (RW, *et al*). Cape May: 33 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 30 Cb (RK, RhK); latest: 1 May 25 Lyndonville (HM, Smith). Black-throated Blue: 1 ACMaC; arr 14 days late: 1 May 12 Spring Brook (DD) and Canadian Shore (RW, *et al*). Yellow-rumped: 2 ACAPC; 81 ACMaC; latest report: 1 Apr 25 Chaut (RS). Cerulean: only one report: arr: 1 Apr 30 Bflo (RA). Blackburnian: 37 ACMaC: 1 Apr 29 BgS (FE, EP). Chestnut-sided: 61 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 11 Alf where "down in numbers" (EB). Bay-breasted: 16 ACMaC; arr: 1 May T/New Hudson (DB, LB). Blackpoll: 4 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 17 Hickox Rd., Eden (TB); also sighted: 2, 1 May 30, 31 Wlsv (EL) and 3 May 27 AL (VP). Pine: a few sightings: 2 ACMaC; arr: Apr 21: two singles Sturgeon Pt (RW, *et al* and MW, MaW) and one Acacia Pk, Pendleton (AM, WM); 1 Apr 27 Hamburg (TB); 1 May 14 Wendt's Pk, Derby (Brockners, AU). Prairie: arr: 1 May 4 Busti (EP); past date but in AC breeding areas: 3 ACMaC; 1 May 25— 31 Alf (EB); 2 May 27 W. Almond (RY). Palm: 8 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 25 Maple Springs (RS). Oven-bird: 80 ACMaC; arr: 3 May 8 INWR (JM). Northern Waterthrush: three reports: arr: 1 Apr 28 Tift St, Bflo (RA, *et al*); 4 May 28 Keeney S(CK); 1 May 14 Cb M(DB, LB). Louisiana Waterthrush: 4 ACMaC; arr four days early: 1 Apr 13 10-mi Cr. Vandalia (SE); two other reports: 1 May 20 near Ne Oregon (TB); 3 May 23 T/Birdsall (KP, JaM). Connecticut: absent this year. Mourning: 1 ACMaC; arr: 3 May 15 Bgs (EJ). Common Yellow-throat: 198 ACMaC; arr nine days late: 1 May 9 N. Boston (Brockners). Yellow-breasted Chat: scarce as usual: arr: 1 May 18—20 N. Davis Rd, Elma (Kikta); 1 May 22 Hamburg (TB). Hooded: 8 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 11 Cb RK, RhK) and 1 May 11 Erie B, Ont (Schaffner, Clark). Wilson's: 16 ACMaC; arr: 2 May 10 CbL (RK, RhK). Canada: 19 ACMaC; arr: 1 May 14 Spring Brook (DD). American Redstart: 46 ACMaC; arr: 15 days late: singles May 14 in three areas: T/New

Hudson (DB LB), Spring Brook (DD) and INWR (JM, Olsen).

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Bobolink: 435 ACMaC; arr: 4 May 2 INWR (Silvernail); 1 May 5 Wlsv (C. Burdick, EL); 1 May 7 Alf (CK); max 20 May 11-31 Alf (EB). Eastern Meadowlark: 159 ACAPC; 215 ACMaC. Red-winged Blackbird: 7638 ACAPC; 3328 ACMaC. Northern Oriole: 331 ACMaC; arr 1 Apr 28 Hamburg (TB); 1 Apr 29 Bgs (FE). Rusty Blackbird 10 ACAPC; 42 ACMaC; several reports, max 150 Apr 9 INWR (Olsen), and last 12 May 7 00 (Brockners). Common Grackle: 5153 ACAPC; 2590 AMCaC. Brown-headed Cowbird: 2097 ACAPC; 701 ACMaC.

Scarlet Tanager: 45 ACMaC; arr about a week late: 1 May 8 Little Genesee (FD). Cardinal: 369 ACAPC; 311 ACMaC. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: 178 ACMaC; arr a week late: 1 May 7 Spring Brook (DD). Indigo Bunting: 117 ACMaC; arr a week late: 2 May 9 Blm (M. Hampton) and 2 May 9 Little Genesee (FD). DICKCISSEL: 1 ACAPC; one at feeder Apr 30 T/Busti (EP, FE, RS, *et al*) and 2 (same feeder) May 1-3 (EP, *et al*). Evening Grosbeak: 1065 ACAPC; 36 ACMaC; last of season: 4 May 17 Derby (Brockners). Purple Finch: 78 ACAPC; 111 ACMaC; max 39 May 1 Hamburg (Rochester). HOUSE FINCH: up to 30 Apr 1-30 Eggertsville (Wards); 2 Apr 17-May 4 N. Bflo (RW). Common Redpoll: 23 ACAPC; last of season: 2 Apr 14 E. Aurora (AV). Pine Siskin: 15 ACAPC; 40 ACMaC; numerous reports with last of season: May 31 Hamburg (Rochester). American Goldfinch: 340 ACAPC; 1248 ACMaC. Red Crossbill: one report: 5 Apr 30 Rockwoods Rd., Eden (TB). White-winged Crossbill: 3 ACAPC; 1 ACNaC; other sightings: 2 Apr 6, 16 Blm (Casterlines); 3-12 Apr 22-May 30 (Rochester, Frye) the injured individual wintering at Fillmore was released Apr 6 by Mrs. Balmer and was seen daily in yard and at feeder through May 21 (KP, *et al*).

Rufous-sided Towhee: 4 ACAPC; 265 ACMaC. Savannah Sparrow: 31 ACAPC; 45 ACMaC. Grasshopper Sparrow: 4 AMCaC; missing in some former areas because of habitat change; arr: singles May 3 Hamburg and Versailles (TB, Brockner); 1 May 11 INWR (JW, Rebovich); 1 May 16-18 Cb (RK, RhK). Henslow's Sparrow: 2 ACMaC; arr almost 3 weeks late: 1 May 9 Alf (EB); 1 May 10 Nike Site, Hamburg (TB); 2, 1 May 13, 30 Alf (CK); up to 2 May 11-31 Alf (EB). Vesper Sparrow: 15 ACAPC; 32 ACMaC; arr ten days late: 1 Apr 4 Alf (CK); max: 16 Apr 7 Cb (RK, RhK). Dark-eyed Junco: 4506 ACAPC; 40 ACMaC. Tree Sparrow: 1602 ACAPC; 2 ACMaC; remained until last day by BOS Date Guide: 1 May 7 Hamburg (RA); 1 May 8 E. Aurora (AV); a late one in Belmont lost its tail feathers and stayed until a new tail grew in May 20 (DB). Chipping Sparrow: 55 ACAPC; 527 ACMaC; arr: 1 Apr 8 Cb (RK, RhK). Field Sparrow: 29 ACAPC; 112 ACMaC. White-crowned Sparrow: 17 ACAPC; 86 ACMaC; very few reported: max 8 May 15 Blm (DB, LB); last of season: 1 May 23 Blm (DB, LB). White-throated Sparrow: 71 ACAPC; 41 ACMaC; only one report of more than 7: 106 May 10 AL (VP); 2 ad with N and 4 E discovered June 1 Alf (EB). Fox Sparrow: a good year: 42 ACAPC; 1 ACMpC; many Apr reports. Lincoln's Sparrow: arr almost on time: 1 May 1 Hamburg (Brockner); 1 May 14 Athol Springs (Brockners, AU); 1-4 May 22 Tift St. Bflo (AV, Schaffner, *et al*); 1 May 21 Seifert Rd, Orchard Pk (TB). Swamp Sparrow: 16 ACAPC; 16 ACMaC; 2 Apr 1 Cb (RK, RhK). Song Sparrow: 1682 ACPaC; 893 ACMaC. Snow Bunting 156 ACAPC.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: Thanks go to Lou and Doris Burton for sensible advice and help "above and beyond the call of duty," to the other faithful Contributors for detailed and prompt reports, and to Robert Place for Weather Data from Alfred Coop. Weather Station.

Summer reports due Sept 3. Fall reports due Dec 3. Amity Lake, Belmont, New York 14813

REGION 2 — GENESEE

THOMAS E. TETLOW

Although April produced temperatures nearly 3.3 degrees above normal, it also produced 8.2 inches of snow, 5 inches more than the previous record and well above the average of 2.4 inches. Total precipitation, however, was slightly below the average of 2.74 inches. May, on the other hand, produced only a trace of snow, but total precipitation was almost 3 inches above the normal of 2.80 inches. Most of this was due to a storm on May 16 that dropped 3.85 inches of rain on the Rochester area. Temperatures of the first half of May were approximately 6 degrees below the average, but by the end of the month, temperatures were about normal.

In general, I would say that April was good, with more than our share of good flight days. However, May was poor with only one notable flight occurring, that being on May 15.

Lake Ontario is again high, destroying almost all lakeshore shorebird areas.

Rarities Include: Golden Eagle, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Willet, Wilson's Phalarope, Little Gull, White-eyed Vireo, Worm-eating Warbler, Orange-crowned Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Kentucky Warbler, Connecticut Warbler, Orchard Oriole, Hoary Redpoll.

OBSERVERS: MC—Mike Carlson; JC—Jery Czech; J&AF—John and Arlieen Foster; NH—Norman Henderson; AK—Allen Kemnitzner; WCL—Walter Listman; WL—Warren Lloyd; RM—Robert McKinney; E&BM—Erwin and Barb Molyneaux; B&SO—Richard and Steve O'Hara C&BP—Chip and Betty Perrigo; NP—Neil Prosser; JS—Jean Skelly; MAS—Mary Ann Sunderlin; T&MT—Tom and Mike Tetlow; GOS—Genesee Ornithological Society; MOB—many observers.

ABBREVIATIONS: BB—Braddocks Bay; ELS—East Lake Shore; DEP—Durand Eastman Park; IROND—Irondequoit; IB—Irondequoit Bay; IBO—Irondequoit Bay Outlet; WEB—Webster; WP—Webster Park; WLS—West Lake Shore.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: max 729 April 27 ELS (AK); several reports of 1-2 birds through end of period. Red-throated Loon: max 46 April 27 ELS (AK). Red-necked Grebe: only report 3 April 14 BB (AK, TT). Double-crested Cormorant: first report 1 April 12 IBO (NP); max 7 May 14 BB (NH, JS); migrants were reported on 11 days in May, a definite increase over recent years. Cattle Egret: first report 2 April 28 Greece (WCL et al); max 16 (new high) May 19 Parma (C&BP). Great Egret: first report 4 April 28 WLS (GOS); both the Cattle and Great Egret remained with us throughout the period and are roosting(?) in a local marsh; herons in general seem to be benefiting from the high water of recent years. Brant: only 1 report of this not-to-be-expected spring migrant 13 May 19 IB (M. Foley, WL, RM, MAS). Snow Goose: only report 2 April 16 WLS (K. Doris, P. Magee, et al). There were no unusual occurrences with migrant ducks either in numbers or departure dates. Local ducks seem to be in good numbers, but I have no doubt that the 3.85 inches of rain we received on May 16 will have some effect on the local population, as it left most low-lying areas under water for 24 hours.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: max 209 April 4 BB (J&AF), this is a new single day high for our region. Goshawk: excellent numbers reported throughout April, max 26 April 4 WEB (JC). Sharp-shinned Hawk: counts exceeding 100: 130 April 4 BB (J&AF et al); 336 April 13 BB (TT et al); 404 April 28 (GOS). Cooper's Hawk: good counts throughout April, max 35 April 4 WEB (JC). Red-tailed Hawk: counts exceeding 100: 155 BB April 4 (J. Claffey, P. Dutcher et al); 175 April 13 WEB (JC). Broad-winged Hawk: counts exceeding 100: 1500 April

20 WEB (JC); 2450 April 21 WEB (JC); 1500 April 27 WEB (JC); 7640 April 28 WEB (JC). Rough-legged Hawk: max 13 April 4 BB (J&AF). *GOLDEN EAGLE*: 3 April 4 WEB (JC); 1 April 13 WEB (JC); 1 April 20 WEB (JC). *BALD EAGLE*: 1 April 26 WEB (JC); 1 April 28 BB (GOS). *PEREGRINE FALCON*: 1 April 13 BB (R. Coffee, RM, TT); 1 April 14 BB (GOS); 1 April 27 Greece (TT); 1 May 11 WLS (R&SO, T&MT); 1 May 15 WLS (R. Spahn); 1 May 26 WEB (JC). *MERLIN*: 1 April 28 WEB (WL); 1 May 11 WEB (JC). Kestrel: max 65 April 13 BB (TT et al). Locally, Red-tailed and Kestrel are maintaining what seems to be a stable population. Single nests of both Goshawk and Broad-winged Hawk were reported at the end of the period, the former containing two young. Status of the latter is unknown. It was a poor spring for shorebirds. The high level of Lake Ontario completely eliminated all lake shore habitat and normally good inland areas produced only a token number. Ruddy Turnstone: only 1 report for period, a single bird May 12 BB (T&MT). Common Snipe was present in good numbers along the WLS. *WILLET*: 1 May 31 BB (MC); this is the second consecutive year, both being May records. Dunlin: 1 April 13 BB (R. Coffee, RM, TT), not reported again until the first week of May. *WILSON'S PHALAROPE*: 1 May 18, 19 Parma (AK et al). Glaucous Gull: last report 2 April 28 ELS (AK). Iceland Gull: last report 1 April 13 WP (AK). Bonaparte's Gull: excellent numbers present at BB from mid-April thru the first week of May, max 5110 April 27 (GOS); 1500 May 4 (G. Meade) was the last large number reported. *LITTLE GULL*: 1 April 26 BB (JS); 1 April 2 ELS (P. Dutcher); 1 May 4-17 BB (MOB). Barn Owl: no reports. Screech and Great Horned present in average numbers. Barred Owl: 1 May 19 Honeoye (C&BP); 1 May 19 Bergen (WCL). Long-eared Owl: 2 April 2 BB (E&BM); 1 May 19 Fishers (G. Meade et al), in addition, at least 1 nest containing 4 young was reported. Short-eared Owl: 1 April 27 Pultneyville (AK), only report for period. Saw-whet Owl: there were 6 reports from April 1 thru 14, one consisting of 2 birds, all reports from the WLS.

GOATSUCKERS-STARLINGS: Whip-poor-will: very few reported during migration. Common Nighthawk: resident birds still reported in low numbers, but migrants were reported in excellent numbers along the WLS May 25 thru 31, max 30 May 29, (Greece), these birds were all perched in a small lakeshore woods (NH). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 May 19 Bergen (MCL et al); 1 May 22 Powder Mill Park (R&SO). An estimated 3300 swallows went past BB on May 12 between 6 and 8 A.M., the majority were Barn, but all were represented, including Chimney Swift, included among them were no less than 40 Cliff Swallows (T&MT). Short-billed Marsh Wren: 1 May 27 Parma (MC, R&SO). Swainson's Thrush: estimated 100 May 29 WLS (NH); Gray-cheeked Thrush: 6 May 29 WLS (NH); several verbal reports were received of the numbers of thrushes present on this day. Eastern Bluebird: no nesting reports. Loggerhead Shrike: no nesting reports and unreported since early April.

VIREOS-WARBLED: Warblers and Vireos were very slow in coming, but the quality proved interesting. Our only notable flight occurred on the 15th of May. *WHITE-EYED VIREO*: 1 May 4, 5 BB (NP et al); 1 May 15 Greece (WL et al). Prothonotary Warbler: 1 April 29 WLS (H. Bramley, L. Drivness, R. Hartwell), this bird is reported almost every year now from the lake shore. *WORM-EATING WARBLER*: 1 April 22 Irondequoit (L. Moon); 1 April 28 BB (E. Vollmer et al); 1 May 17 Brighton (D&E Vollmer); 1 May 19 Greece (J. Taylor). *ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER*: 1 May 24 Greece (MC&CP). Magnolia Warbler: 60 May 15 WLS (WL&MAS). Many observers noted the large increase in Cape May Warblers in the past two years. *YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER*: 1 May 30 Bergen (R. Clark, W. Symonds). Pine Warbler: 1 April 20-28 BB (MOB); 1

May 2 DEP (JS); 1 May 5 DEP (R&SO); 1 May 15 Gecce (R. Spahn). *PRAIRIE WARBLER*: 1, 2 May 11-17 Greece (K. Doris, D. Wilton, L. Trainor). Although Louisiana Waterthrush can be expected in the southern part of our region, it is noteworthy to find one along the lake shore, finding three is rare indeed; 1 April 13 Iron. (D. Tremmel); 1 April 28 BB (D. Vollmer et al); 1 May 15 WEB (J&T McNett). *KENTUCKY WARBLER*: 1 May 15 BB (D&L Skiff, WL, MAS, R. White), if our records are accurate, this is the first report since June 1954. *CONNECTICUT WARBLERS* 1 May 15 WEB J&T McNett); 1 May 23 Greece (NH, R. Ladwig); 1 May 31 Greece (R. Spahn).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: 1 April 26 Bergen (E&BM), this is an early date for our region. *ORCHARD ORIOLE*: 2 May 19 Kendall (WCL et al), this bird has nested successfully in the same area in past years. Evening Grosbeak: several reports throughout period, max 15, last reported May 22. Reports of House Finch are becoming more frequent, but no nesting reports were received thru the end of period. No reports of Pine Grosbeak. *HOARY REDPOLL*: 2 April 4-13 Perinton (F. Phelps). There were 11 reports of Common Redpoll in April (max 6) and no reports in May. Pine Siskin: many reports throughout period (max 44) last reported May 22. Red Crossbill: 3 May 18 Powder Mill Park (Museum Bird Spotters); 1-4 May 16-31 Brighton (M. Schmale); 10 all month Penfield (F. Munson). White-winged Crossbill: no report in April and only two in May (max 8). Lapland Longspur: 1 May 29 Parma (MC, CP).

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REGION 3 — FINGER LAKES

W. E. BENNING

While April averaged a little above normal in temperature, there were wide swings in the daily readings with high temperatures at the start, in the middle and at the close of the month and cold periods in between. Precipitation, mostly in the first half, was about normal with snow (11 inches at Ithaca and 2 at Montezuma) on the 8th and 9th. Cloudy, cool and rainy characterized May with a warm spell at mid-month. Total rainfall was about normal and temperature average 3 degrees below normal. Migration was delayed and "waves" were largely absent.

Snow Geese continued to increase in numbers at Montezuma Refuge but the Canada Goose peak, which reached 70,000 in 1972, was only half that number. Maximum counts of migrant dabbling ducks, which had reached an unbelievable low last year, rebounded strongly. Diving ducks were a different story. Continued declines have brought them almost to the vanishing point. The marsh nesting birds continue in very low numbers since the destruction of their broods by Agnes in 1972.

Good shorebird habitat was minimal at Montezuma but the frequent rains kept parts of the Waterloo dump most attractive to these migrants. May rains also produced temporary pools in farm fields some of which had surprising visitors such as 18 Ruddy Turnstones on such a pond north of Geneva.

Savannah, Vesper and Swamp sparrows were difficult to find all spring while Field Sparrows inundated the fields in early May.

Two new species have been added to the Cayuga Basin list, the Cinnamon Teal which visited Montezuma Refuge and the Fish Crow which spent several weeks in the Cayuga Heights section of Ithaca. Field notes will appear on each.

Other rarities include Brant, Ruff (2), Hudsonian Godwit (2), Prairie Warbler,

Connecticut Warbler and Dickcissel.

We regret that failure to receive reports from the southern half of the Region limits this report very largely to a documentation of the spring migration in the northern half.

Abbreviations: arr—arrival; Cay—Cayuga; Cly—Clyde; Co—County; EOSBD—Eaton Ornithological Society Big Day; JP—Junius Ponds; L—Lake; MNWR—Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge; SAD—Seneca Army Depot; Sen—Seneca; Schy—Schuyler; WD—Waterloo Dump.

Contributors and area compilers: WB—Walter Benning; JB—Jack Brubaker (Watkins Glen); RG—Robert Gustafson (MNWR); FG—Frank Guthrie (Keuka); MJ—Morgan Jones (SAD); JJS—James and Judy Stewart.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: reported from Sen L only. Horned Grebe: 1 Apr 27 MNWR. Pied-billed Grebe: scarce at SAD, Keuka L and MNWR. Great Blue Heron: 30 nests in Addison heronry and 165 in Marengo Swamp. Green Heron: arr 1 May 4 and max 8 MNWR; generally down. Great Egret: 2 MNWR (RG). Black-crowned Night Heron: max 4 MNWR; otherwise unreported. American Bittern: arr May 5 MNWR; max 8. Whistling Swan: a few birds lingered on Cayuta L into May; 4 MNWR. Canada Goose: migrants at MNWR remained a week later than usual; peaked at 35,000; last date at Keuka L May 19 (FG) late. Brant: 2 May 19 Sen L (EOSBD). Snow Goose: 3,500 peak at MNWR; ratio of blue morph to white about 3 to 1.

Peak duck counts by personnel at MNWR show the following: Mallard: 3,500. Black 20,000. Gadwall: 2,000. Pintail: 2,000. Green-winged Teal: 3,000. Blue-winged Teal: 3,000. American Wigeon: 1,000. Shoveler: 800. Wood Duck: 400. Redhead: 10. Ring-necked Duck: 200. Canvasback: 2. Lesser Scaup: 20. Bufflehead: 10. Ruddy: 20. American Goldeneye: 4. Hooded Merganser: 50. Red-breasted Merganser: 4. Common Merganser 40.

CINNAMON TEAL: 1 male Apr 1-3 MNWR (M. Haramis, WB, RG et al).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: arr 1 Apr 2 SAD (MJ); max 11 May 5 MNWR (WB). Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Apr 2 Oaks Corners and 1 Apr 25 JP (both JJS). Cooper's Hawk: 2 thruout period at JP (JJS). Red-tailed Hawk: good numbers continue. Red-shouldered Hawk: adult May 5 and immature May 6 JP (both JJS); 1 feeding on chipmunk near Watkins Glen (JB). Broad-winged Hawk: 1 Apr 20 and 1 May 5 (JJS). Bald Eagle adult and immature during May MNWR (RG). Marsh Hawk: 1-3 at MNWR thruout period; reported from Hector area (JB). American Kestrel: good numbers; 20 at MNWR (RG). Ruffed Grouse: down in Keuka area (FG); max at JP (JJS). Ring-necked Pheasant: numbers up at JP; about the same at MNWR; down in Keuka area. Turkey: increasing at Keuka with 3 sightings. Virginia and Sora Rails: both reported from Watkins-Montour march. Common Gallinule: very scarce; arr 1 Tpr 17 MNWR (WB); max 4 NMWR and 3 May 27 WD. American Coot: scarce; max 60 MNWR (RG).

Semipalmated Plover: arr 1 May 5 MNWR; max 12 May 26 WD (WB) and 20 May 23 at farm pond north of Geneva (JJS). Killdeer: usual numbers; max 30 MNWR (RG). Black-bellied Plover: arr 1 May 25 near Waterloo (JJS); 2 May 26 WD (WB); 2 May 27 at pond north of Geneva (JJS). Ruddy Turnstone: arr 18 May 29 at pond along Rt 14 north of Geneva (JJS). American Woodcock: 4 at MNWR (RG); calling at JP (JJS). Common Snipe: 15 MNWR; "winnowing" during May north of MNWR. Upland Sandpiper: arr 1 May 27 near WD (L. Proskine). Spotted Sandpiper: arr 3 May 4 MNWR; max 20 MNWR. Solitary Sandpiper: arr 2 Apr 30 along Clyde River (WB). Greater Yellowlegs: arr 1 Apr 27 Waterloo area; max 8 May 19 MNWR. Lesser Yellowlegs: arr 18 May 5 MNWR; last 1 May 28 WD. Pectoral Sandpiper: arr 5 May 19 MNWR (JJS);

last 1 May 27 WD. White-rumped Sandpiper: arr 10 May 25 WD; max 52 May 28 WD (WB). Least Sandpiper: arr 4 May 12 MNWR; max 40 MNWR (RG). Dunlin: arr 85 May 19 MNWR (WB); max 112 EOSBD. Semipalmated Sandpiper: arr 8 May 19 MNWR; max 20 May 25 WD. HUDSONIAN GODWIT: 2 May 19 MNWR (WB); a very buffy individual probably an immature; 1 May 25-27 WD (WB, JJS, MJ et al).

Below are the peak numbers of gulls as reported by the MNWR personnel: Great Black-backed 4; Herring: 250; Ring-billed: 300. Bonaparte's Gull: 20 May 9 Sen L (JJS); 10 May 11 MNWR (WB); 30 at Hammondsport for several weeks (FG). Common Tern: 1 May 16 MNWR; max 2. Black Tern: arr 10 May 5 MNWR; max 50; low. Mourning Dove: continues in good numbers. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: "more common this year" (JB); only report. Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 May 26 JP (JJS); 3 May 19 EOSBD. Screech Owl: 2 MNWR (RG). Great Horned Owl: 8 MNWR (RG); pair at JP hatched 2 young and fledged 1 (JJS). Short-eared Owl: 1 MNWR (RG).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Common Nighthawk: arr May 20 Phelps; 2 May 22 (JJS). Chimney Swift: arr 3 May 7 Cay L (WB). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: few reports; 4 May 19 EOSBD. Belted Kingfisher: 7 May 19 EOSBD. Common Flicker normal numbers. Pileated Woodpecker: reported from MNWR, JP and Geneva areas. Red-bellied Woodpecker: continues to increase; 10 May 19 EOSBD. Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 Apr 20 Burdette (JB); 1 May 15 Cly; 1 May 17 Phelps. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: arr 1 Apr 17 Cly. Eastern Kingbird: arr 1 May 8 JP (JJS). Great Crested Flycatcher: arr May 9 Cly. Eastern Phoebe: arr 1 Apr 4 MNWR. Willow Flycatcher: arr 1 May 16 MNWR. Least Flycatcher: arr 1 May 2 MNWR. Eastern Wood Pewee: arr 1 May 14 JP (JJS). Horned Lark: continues scarce.

FG reports all swallows down in the Keuka area. Tree Swallow: arr 10 Apr 3 MNWR; MJ reports 14 nesting boxes occupied at SAD compared to 7 last year; however, he found 12 dead birds in unused houses; at JP birds were feeding on bayberries during cool periods when there was little insect activity. Bank Swallow: arr 2 Apr 20 Waterloo (JJS); colony at Cly (new in 1973) continues at about 50 nests; new colony at Tyre near MNWR has 100 plus nests. Rough-winged Swallow: arr Apr 27 MNWR. Barn Swallow: arr 3 Apr 20 Waterloo; abundant. Cliff Swallow: 1 report near Reading Center (JB). Purple Martin: arr 1 Apr 3 MNWR; 40 birds occupying all 3 houses at MNWR is the best in several years.

FISH CROW single bird first seen and heard by Lori and Alan Hahn in Cayuga Heights Mar 16; vocalizations later taped and compared to those of Fish Crow appeared to be identical; first record for Cay Basin; field note to be published. Tufted Titmouse: 4 MNWR (RG); 1 Apr 26 (JJS); 3 May 19 EOSBD. Red-breasted Nuthatch: scarce; single birds reported Schy Co, Keuka area and JP. House Wren: arr 1 Apr 28 Cly. Winter Wren: seen at JP Apr 4-20 (JJS); singing at 2 locations in mid-May near Cayuta L (JB). Carolina Wren: 1 May 7 Trumansburg (WB). Long-billed Marsh Wren: arr 1 Apr 27 MNWR; regular in Watkins-Montour marsh (JB). Mockingbird: 3 sightings in Keuka area; 3 locations in central Sen Co with 4 birds at Sampson State Park May 19 (MJ). Gray Catbird: 4 found in a gully off Rice Rd near Trumansburg Apr 13 (L. Proskine); very early migrants or overwintering birds? Brown Thrasher: arr 2 May 5 JP (JJS). Wood Thrush: arr 1 May 5 MNWR; 28 May 19 EOSBD. Hermit Thrush: arr 1 Apr 27 MNWR; 1 May 11 Keuka (FG). Swainson's Thrush; 1 May 17 MNWR. Gray-checked Thrush: 1 May 19 EOSBD. Bluebird: "quite a few nesting pairs" Schy Co (JB); several boxes occupied in Trumansburg area (L. Proskine); 2 pair at JP with at least one nesting; at Keuka cool weather resulted in poor nesting conditions. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: "scarce" at Keuka but otherwise up in numbers.

Golden-crowned Kinglet: arr 2 Apr 4 MNWR. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: numerous. Water Pipit: 2 May 10 Waterloo.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: arr 1 May 8 JP (JJS). Solitary Vireo: arr 1 May 8 JP (JJS). Red-eyed Vireo: scarce at Keuka but good numbers elsewhere. Philadelphia Vireo: unusual numbers of this uncommon migrant; MJ found 5 in 200 yards along Kendaia Creek at SAD on May 19; FG reports 3 sightings in the Keuka area; WB found single birds at MNWR on May 1 and 19 and at JP on May 22. Warbling Vireo: arr 1 May 5 Cly; numbers "doubled or tripled" over 1973 at SAD (MJ).

Black-and-white Warbler: arr May 8 JP. Golden-winged Warbler: pair May 18 Mills Rd Waterloo; 1 May 31 Avery Rd Sen Co. Blue-winged Warbler: arr 1 May 13 Cly; 1 May 26 Avery Rd Sen Co., up at Keuka. Brewster's Warbler: 1 seen in same area in Guyanoga Valley where it was found last year. Tennessee Warblers: arr 1 May 13 Cly. **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER:** seen by Cathy Walsh, Paris and Pepper Trail May 19 on EOSBD; no verifying details. Nashville Warbler: arr 1 May 8 Cly. Parula Warbler arr 1 May 19 Keuka. Yellow Warbler: arr 1 Apr 30 Cly. Magnolia Warbler: arr 1 May 8 JP. Cape May Warbler: arr 1 May 17 Cly; M. Lerch banded more than usual at Penn Yan. Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr 6 May 9 Cly. Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler: about 20 made it thru the winter at JP; max 50 May 16 JP. Black-throated Green Warbler: arr 1 May 8 Cly. Cerulean Warbler: arr 2 May 15 Trumansburg. Blackburnian Warbler: arr 1 May 13 Cly. Chestnut-sided Warbler: arr 1 May 18 JP. Bay-breasted Warbler: arr 1 May 18 JP; seen in good numbers. Blackpoll Warbler: arr May 16 Keuka; early. Pine Warbler: May 19 EOSBD. **PRAIRIE WARBLER:** arr 2 May 8 Cly (WB). Palm Warbler: arr 1 Apr 26 JP. Ovenbird: arr 1 May 9 Cly. **CONNECTICUT WARBLER:** arr 1 May 14 Keuka (Mabel Thompson); no verifying report filed. Mourning Warbler: arr 1 May 17 JP. Common Yellowthroat: arr 1 May 10 JP. Yellow-breasted Chat: pair carrying nesting materials into multiflora rose thicket on May 19 at MNWR; seen again in same thicket June 2 (WB); at 2 locations, 1 being new, near Hinman Swamp in Schy Co (JB). Wilson's Warbler: arr May 19 King Rd Sen Co. Canada Warbler: 1 May 16 JP; at Penn Yan M. Lerch banded more than usual. American Redstart: arr 1 May 16 JP.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: arr 1 May 6 Cly; reported in better than average numbers. Scarlet Tanager: arr 2 May 15 JP (JJS). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr 1 May 9 Cly. Indigo Bunting: arr 1 May 15 Trumansburg. **DICKCISSEL:** male at Robert Lamison's feeder in Ovid Apr 22-24; no verifying details filed. Evening Grosbeak: last dates May 7 Trumansburg; May 19 Keuka; May 27 Odessa. Purple Finch: 4 May 15 JP; 1 May 24 MNWR. Pine Siskin: regular to middle of May in Schy Co; present at Lamison feeder in Ovid thru week of May 5. White-winged Crossbill: Apr 26 at Keuka (FG). Rufous-sided Towhee: over 20 pairs at JP (JJS). Savannah Sparrow: scarce. Grasshopper Sparrow: singing males at 4 locations at JP (JJS). Vesper Sparrow: scarce; only 3 on EOSBD. Dark-eyed Junco: last date May 19 EOSBD. Tree Sparrow: last date Apr 19 Cly. Chipping Sparrow: good numbers. Field Sparrow: heavy migration the first week in May. White-crowned Sparrow: arr 1 May 5 Cly; last May 29 Keuka (FG). White-throated Sparrow: arr 10 Apr 27 MNWR. Swamp Sparrow: low numbers.

RD 2 Clyde, N.Y. 14433

REGION 4 — SUSQUEHANNA

LESLIE E. BEMONT

In spite of a 10 inch snowfall April 8 and 9, the last serious snow of the season, April was decidedly warmer than normal with only two thirds the normal precipitation. May, particularly the first two weeks, was wet and cool.

The small land bird migration was at least on time at the end of April but did seem retarded after that. In several instances the first report of a species was normal but the main body of migrants lagged behind. Migrant thrushes were none too common and parula warblers were not reported at all after being a little more common than usual last year.

The principal rarity was a Golden Eagle.

Observers initials: C,JB—Cutler and Jeanette Baldwin; CB—Cheryl Boise; MB—Margaret Bowman; MC—Mildred Clark; GC—Gail Corderman; A,MD—Anna and Marilyn Davis; W,LD—Warren and Louise Dean; MD—Mary Dobinsky; CG—Claire Gottschall; EH—Elva Hawken; LH—Louise Hover; CH—Claude Howard; DH—Donald Huntington; CK—Cindy Kirch; MS—Mary Sheffield; RS—Robert Sheffield; EW—Elizabeth Washburn; R,SW—Ruth and Sally White; KW—Kathryn Wilson.

Abbreviations: Bing—Binghamton; BSC—Binghamton Spring Census, May 19; CF—Chenango Forks; EB—East Branch, Delaware County; DOSC—Delaware Otsego Spring Census, May 18; Sher—Sherburne; Port—Portlandville; TSC—Tioga Spring Census, May 19; WP—Whitney Point.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: Apr 13, 1 at WP (MS) and 1 at Port (MD, KW); 4 other reports, the last May 21 Pepacton Reservoir (MB). Horned Grebe: Apr 7 WP (MS); 5 more reports to Apr 25 at Oneonta Reservoir (MD). Pied-billed Grebe: 2 Apr 27 Goodyear Lake (MD, KW), the last report after being fairly common, especially around Oneonta. Green Heron: 2 Apr 28 Brisben to Greene (RS, MS). Great Egret: 1 Apr 15 Sher (R,SW); May 19 TSC; no others. American Bittern: 1 Apr 14 Emmons, near Oneonta (MD). Least Bittern: May 18 and 21 near SUNY Bing campus (Richard Kaskan), seldom reported in Region. Canada Goose: large flocks until Apr 28; 2 still near Walton May 25 (MC, et. al.). Mallard: migrants mostly gone after Apr 15. Pintail: 2 Apr 13 Port (MD, KW), last ones. Green-winged Teal: 3 Apr 13 Port (MD, KW), the last date. Blue-winged Teal: more common than usual this spring; still at Oneonta May 18 and Apalachin May 19. American Wigeon: Apr 13 Chenango Bridge (A,MD) and Port (MD, KW), last date. Shoveler: 2 to 3 birds on pond near Milford Apr 13 to 20 (MD, KW). Ring-necked Duck: Apr 27, 5 at Pepacton Reservoir (MB) and 13 at Goodyear Lake and Milford (MD, KW), the last ones. Greater Scaup: DOSC. Lesser Scaup: 400 or more Apr 11 Pepacton Reservoir (MC), first date and maximum count; 1 May 24 Crumhorn Lake, Otsego County (MD), last date. Common Goldeneye: 1 female Apr 15 Crumhorn Lake (MD), the only report after Mar 31. Bufflehead: 2 Apr 18 CF (A,MD), last. Oldsquaw: May 2, 1 at South Valley (DH) and 4 at Oneonta Reservoir (MD), last date. Surf Scoter: 1 May 4 Otsego Lake (DH). White-winged Scoter: 3 May 4 WP (MS). Ruddy Duck: 1 Apr 13 WP (MS); 2 Apr 27 Norwich (R,SW). Hooded Merganser: 2 May 5 Sher (CB), the only report after Apr 13. Common Merganser: 6 still at EB, along the Beaverkill, May 3 (MB); May 5 CF (RS, MS). Red-breasted Merganser: 25 Apr 13 WP (MS).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: about 100, presumably migrating, reported at Cadosia in mid Apr (via MB); also reported at Delhi (MC), Candor (Robert

Pantle), Sher (CB), EB (MB), Center Lisle, Broome County (CH), south of Bing (GC, Warren Corderman, Eugene Kirch) and Oneonta; the species seems to have been increasing in the Region for several years. Goshawk: reported on both DOSC and BSC. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 6 reports. Cooper's Hawk: 5 reports. Red-tailed Hawk: fairly common, as usual. Red-shouldered Hawk: 5 Apr 27 Oneonta area (MD, KW), the best count; at least 7 other reports. Broad-winged Hawk: only 14 reports, down from previous years. Golden Eagle: 1 immature Apr 20 over the west side of Bing (Dr. Alvin Carpenter) at 1330 EDT, no dihedral—two tone wings with lighter spots near wrists—head smaller than bald eagles—no teetering when soaring—observer has had previous experience with species. Marsh Hawk: 8 reports, up a little; 1 “tumbling” Apr 27 near Oneonta (MD, KW). Osprey: Apr 13, 2 at Upper Lisle (MS), 1 at Franklin, Delaware County (MC), 1 in Oneonta area (MD, KW); 17 other reports, 6 on more Apr 28 between Brisben and Greene (RS, MS) the best count. Merlin: May 18 DOSC. Turkey: Apr 16 Owego (LH); Apr 17 CF (A, MD); also regular at Newark Valley during Apr (W, LD) and reported on both TSC and BSC. Virginia Rail: Apr 18 Newark Valley (W, LD); 1 May 14 Sher (CB). Common Gallinule: May 8 Friendsville in nearby Pennsylvania (CG); TSC. American Coot: Apr 6 Chenango Bridge (A, MD); D)SC. Spotted Sandpiper: Apr 12 Port (MD). Solitary Sandpiper: Apr 27 Owego (LH). Greater Yellowlegs: 1 May 14 Sher (CB). Lesser Yellowlegs: Apr 27 Owego (LH). Least Sandpiper: May 19 Westford (DH); BSC; May 28 Sher (CB). Ring-billed Gull: about a dozen Apr 13 Upper Lisle (MS), the best count. Bonaparte's Gull: 4 records, 4 Apr 15 Sher (R, SW), the best count and last date. Yellow-billed Cuckoo: DOSC; not many. Black-billed Cuckoo: DOSC; not many. Screech Owl: 3 reports. Barred Owl: DOSC; BSC, still at regular location south of Bing.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: May 18 Hinman's Corners (Bob and Jeanne Saunders); DOSC; no other reports. Nighthawk: DOSC; May 18 CF (A, MD). Chimney Swift: Apr 23 Owego (Evelyn Williams). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: May 7 Friendsville (CG); fairly common. Pileated Woodpecker: 9 reports. Red-headed Woodpecker: DOSC; TSC; BSC (MS); no others. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: migrants Apr 13 at several localities. Eastern Kingbird: Apr 28 between Brisben and Greene (MS); Apr 30 South Montrose, in nearby Pennsylvania, (CG); no more until May 15. Great Crested Flycatcher: May 9 CF (A, MD). Traill's Flycatcher: May 14 Vestal (GC); both Alder and Willow on BSC. Least Flycatcher: May 2 Vestal (EH). Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 1 May 22 Vestal (GC), banded. Eastern Wood Pewee: 2 May 16 Middlefield (DH). Olive-sided Flycatcher: May 25 Sher (CB); May 27 Castle Creek (MS). Bank Swallow: Apr 28 Brisben-Greene (MS). Rough-winged Swallow: 2 Apr Sher (R, SW). Barn Swallow: Apr 16 (LH). Cliff Swallow: 3 Apr 29 Sher (R, SW). Purple Martin: Apr 3 Owego (C, JB). Red-breasted Nuthatch: BSC, the latest of several reports. Brown Creeper: none after May 19. House Wren: 1 Apr 9 Schenectady (DH); no more until Apr 26. Winter Wren: 3 Apr 12 Delhi (MC); BSC, the last date with only 2 intervening reports. Carolina Wren: Apr 15 Ingraham Hill, just south of Bing (CH); DOSC; May 27 Owego (R. W. Bennett). Mockingbird 1 Apr 21 Oneonta (Irene Smith); 1 Apr 28 Delhi (MC); Apr 30 Owego (LH); May 11 Choconut Center (RS); DOSC; BSC; TSC. Catbird: Apr 30 Vestal (EH) and 2 Westville, Otsego County (DH); common after May 6. Brown Thrasher: 1 Apr 5 Meredith, Delaware County (MC). Wood Thrush: Apr 26 Delhi (MC). Hermit Thrush: May 4 EB (MB) and 2 Milford (MD, KW), first date. Swainson's Thrush: May 14 Vestal (GC), banded; 11 more reports to May 26. Gray-cheeked Thrush: 2 May 17 Maine, Broome County (Jon and Susan Harrington); May 25 Walton (MC, et. al.); the only reports. May 4 EB (MB); no

more until May 11. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Apr 15 Ingraham Hill (CU); 3 Apr 25 EB (MB); 2 May 14 Sher (CB); DOSC; BSC. Golden-crowned Kinglet: May 12 Sher (CB), the last of 3 May reports. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: 6 Apr 8 Delhi (MC) to May 25 Walton (MC, et. al.); quite numerous, particularly from Apr 20 to May 14. Water Pipit: 1 Apr 8 Delhi (MC). Cedar Waxwing: not very common. Loggerhead Shrike: BSC (GC).

VIREOS--WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: May 10 Friendsville (CG), fairly numerous. Solitary Vireo: Apr 25 Emmons (MD). Red-eyed Vireo: first date May 15 in several localities; common, as usual. Philadelphia Vireo: TSC; BSC; 1 May 20 Maine (Jon and Susan Harrington); 1 May 23 Delhi (MC). Warbling Vireo: Apr 28 Briarben-Greene (MS); Apr 30 Owego (LH). Black-and-White Warbler: 1 Apr 26 Delhi (MC). Golden-winged Warbler: May 4 Vestal (Naturalists' Club). Brewster's Warbler: 1 May 17 Vestal (EH), banded. Blue-winged Warbler: May 7 Sher (CB); 5 later reports. Tennessee Warbler May 15 EB (MB), first; May 27 Choconut Center (MS), last; numerous. Orange-crowned Warbler: 1 May 23 EB (MB); no others. Nashville Warbler: Apr 30 Vestal (EH). Yellow Warbler: Apr 27 Owego (LH). Magnolia Warbler: May 11 Vestal (Naturalists' Club). Cape May Warbler: May 11 Vestal (Naturalists' Club). Yellow Warbler: May 8 Sher (CB) and Kirkwood (Naturalists' Club). Yellow-rumped Warbler: Apr 21 Owego (C,JB), first; 2 May 21 Milford (MD), KM, Virginia Hamwey), last. Black-throated Green Warbler: Apr 28 CF (A,MD); no more until May 8. Cerulean Warbler: DOSC; 1 May 20 Delhi (MC). Blackburnian Warbler: May 4 EB (MB). Chestnut-sided Warbler: May 4 Vestal (Naturalists' Club). Bay-breasted Warbler: May 14 Emmons (MD) and CF (A,MD), first date; May 22 EB (MB), last. Blackpoll Warbler: May 11 Vestal (EH); still around at the end of May. Prairie Warbler: 1 May 14 EB (MB); May 29 heard at regular station in Vestal Center (EM). Palm Warbler: 1 Apr 13 Oneonta area (MD, KW); Apr 21 Owego (C,JB); 1 May 11 Sher (R,SW). Ovenbird: May 8 Vestal (EH). Northern Waterthrush: May 13 Vestal (EH), banded; quite a few. Louisiana Waterthrush: 1 Apr 13 Oneonta area (MD, KW). Mourning Warbler: 1 Apr 30 Middlefield (DH); DOSC; May 25 Walton (MC, et. al.). Yellowthroat: Apr 28 Choconut Center (MS). Yellow-breasted Chat; TSC; no others. Wilson's Warbler: May 14 Vestal (GC); banded; 8 more reports to May 21. Canada Warbler: May 11 Vestal (Naturalists' Club). American Redstart: May 14 several localities, last date.

BLACKBIRDS--SPARROWS: Bobolink: May 10 Friendsville (CG). Northern Oriole: May 5 CF (MS). Rusty Blackbird: still at Brisben May 11 (RS); also May report from Owego. Scarlet Tanager: May 10 Oneonta (KW). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: Apr 5 Endwell (Esther Neal); Apr 28 Vestal (EH). Indigo Bunting: 1 May 9 Westford, Otsego County (DH). Evening Grosbeak: frequent reports but small numbers and absent from many feeders; last date May 22 Oneonta (Irene Wright). Purple Finch: scarce until about Apr 20 then abundant to May 4 and remained fairly common to the end of the period. House Finch: regular and common at 1 feeder in Bing (CK), 1 feeder in Vestal (GC) and 2 feeders in Endwell (Florence Linaberry, Les Bemont) but absent from most all other Triple Cities feeders reporting; 2 Apr 30 Owego (C,JB) and 1 May 31 Vestal Center (EW), the only reports from outside the Bing area; May 14 an immature bird banded at Vestal (GC). Common Redpoll: 3 Apr 20 (E. B. and F. B. Vermilya), the last report. Pine Siskin: small numbers until a minor surge about 20 to May 14; BSC the last date. Red Crossbill: 1 Apr 8 and 9 Bing (CK); 8 or more May 7 Oneonta (MD); the only reports. White-winged Crossbill: 3 Apr 1 and 6 Bing (CK), no other. Rufous-sided Towhee: 1 Apr 11 West Davenport, Otsego County (E. B. and F. B. Vermilya). Savannah Sparrow: Apr 2 West for (DH) and Delhi

(MC). Grasshopper Sparrow: DOSC; 2 other reports, both from Broome County. Henslow's Sparrow May 3 Choconut Center (MS); BSC; TSC; no others. Vesper Sparrow Apr 8 Delhi (MC). Dark-eyed Junco: down to small summer population after May 12; 1 Apr 11 at feeder at West Davenport "with pure white head" (Mrs. H. R. More); 1 "Oregon" banded at Vestal Apr (GC). Tree Sparrow: 1 lingered at Choconut Center to May 11 (MS); BSC (Jim Briggs). Chipping Sparrow: 1 Apr 5 Delhi (MC); next reports Apr 14. Field Sparrow: regular from Apr 9. White-crowned Sparrow: 2 Apr 24 Delhi (MC), the first migrants; common from May 4 to 15; May 21 Owego (R. W. Bennett), the last. White-throated Sparrow: migrants in numbers from Apr 14 to May 11. Fox Sparrow: good numbers to Apr 25; BSC (David Ciganek), the only report after May 10. Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 May 11 Sher (CB); 1 banded May 17 and another May 20 Vestal (EH). Swamp Sparrow: Apr 13, 2 in Oneonta area (MD, KW) and 2 or 3 singing at WP (MS).

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REGION 5 — ONEIDA LAKE BASIN

F. G. SCHEIDER

A surge of southerly winds in early April triggered a spectacular raptor migration (q.v.) and gave promise of relief from March's extended and extensive winter. Unfortunately rain and persistent north and northeast winds in mid-April and again in late April made for a slow month and May was little better. Cold, clear weather and north winds in the first third of May produced minimal migrant movement and what few migrants did show up were in scant numbers. The middle third of May was more cold weather, much rain (the second wettest May on record), and tremendous winds, none southerly, but despite this, produced a few impressive waves of later warblers. Even late May was cold—again with rain and persistent adverse winds, so cold that insect life was severely retarded and many arboreal species even then were noted groundfeeding and insect repellents were not required throughout May. As judged from both comments and counts, both cuckoo species, certain flycatchers, particularly Empidonax, most vireos, many local warblers, and Indigo Bunting did not arrive on territory until well into June.

Positives for the spring include 1) a good Canada Goose flight; 2) a good but late raptor migration; 3) good numbers of certain species of flycatchers (q.v.); 4) a tremendous but brief swallow migration; 5) advancing numbers of Tufted Titmouse, Carolina Wren, and Mockingbird; 6) good counts of migrant kinglets; 7) a surge in certain local breeding birds—House Wren, Gray Catbird, Northern Oriole, Chipping Sparrow, 8) good, and in some cases, impressive, numbers of later migrant warblers; 9) heavy but late flight of Icterids; and 10) increased numbers of Cardinal and Rose-breasted Grosbeak and veritable swarms of American Goldfinch.

Negatives include 1) a dismal dabbling and diving duck flight, especially poor in Aythya; 2) a minimal spring shorebird flight, both for the mid-April and the late May species 3) reduced counts on all local tern species; 4) few cuckoos and even fewer Ruby-throated Hummingbird; 5) reduced tallies for locally breeding swallows; 6) reduced numbers of certain, usually early, migrant warblers—Nashville Warbler, Northern Parula Warbler, Palm Warbler, Pine Warbler, Ovenbird; and 7) marked reduction in virtually all sparrows, notably in Savannah, Vesper, White-throated, Fox, Lincoln's, and Swamp, and even in the normally ubiquitous Dark-eyed Junco.

Rarities for the season are Cattle Egret, Little Blue Heron, Black Vulture, Peregrine Falcon, Little Gull, Common Raven, Worm-eating, Prairie, and Kentucky Warblers, Yellow-breasted Chat, Western Meadowlark, and Orchard Oriole.

Abbreviated localities—DH—Derby Hill near Texas; LOL—Lake Ontario littoral; LSB—Little Sodus Bay at Fair Haven; NPT—northern Pompey Township; Onon L—Onondaga Lake; SP—Sandy Pond; SSSP—Selkirk Shores Park near Port Ontario; SRF—Seneca River flats north of the town of Montezuma; Syr—Syracuse; TRGMA—Three Rivers Game Management Area near Baldwinville.

Initialed observers—WB—W Brosseau; GC—G Church; DWC—DW Crumb; PAD—PA DeBenedictis; TR—T. Dittrich; JMP—JW Propst; TR—T Riley; FGS—FG Scheider; GAS—GA Smith; CW—C Wernick.

My thanks to Bill Brosseau, Dorothy Crumb, Paul DeBenedictis, Fred LaFrance, and Jean Propst for help in compilation of this material.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: max 30 May 5 LOL; present to the end of period. Red-throated Loon: 1 May 16 Delta L (Peebles) is most unusual as spring birds are usually found on Ontario, occasionally Oneida L. Red-necked Grebe: 1 only for the season—May 5 (late) Skaneateles L (TR). Horned Grebe: max 450 Apr 2 Onon L, a record spring tally; last noted Apr 30 two DH. Pied-billed Grebe: present as breeders only at Utica, Floyd, and Fox Ridge—very scarce.

Great Egret: max 4 May 19 Scott Swamp, Pond Hundred, and Fox Ridge (PAD, WB); total of 7 for the period—up slightly. *CATTLE EGRET*: 1 May 14 near Texas (DWC), only report. *LITTLE BLUE HERON*: an ad Apr 22 DH (HH Axtel, mob) and another ad, ? same bird) Utica Marsh Apr 25 (M Stocks, V Billings). Black-crowned Night Heron: total of 6 for the spring for all observers—Apr 21—May 30.

Canada Goose: max 18,000 Apr 17 Beaver L, Scott Swamp, and Stevens Pond (JWP); exodus 6000 Apr 21 over DH, rather early. Brant: 2 Onon L May 18 and 5 on ponds near Eaton (GC); none from LOL. Snow Goose: total of 4 individuals Apr 3 to Apr 26, very scarce.

Mallard and Black Duck: max 160 Mallard Apr 9 Oneida L and 85 Black LSB, SRF Apr 6, very poor. Gadwall: a spring disaster duck—max a mere 7 Apr 11 Scott Swamp. Pintail: max 130 Pennellville flats Apr 11—? where are the thousands of four or five years ago? Green-winged and Blue-winged Teal: like the larger dabblers, miserable numbers this spring with the max 20 Green-winged May 4 Scott Swamp and 24 Blue-winged Apr 4 DH, Scott Swamp. American Wigeon: max 50 Apr 6 LSB, SRF and 40 Beaver L Apr 8—very low. Wood Duck: max 15 May 5 SSSP, Scott Swamp—other counts 1-9/day and many observers had none!

Like dabblers, diving ducks were very scarce—spring max as follows: Redhead—20 Apr 9 Oneida L (GAS); Ring-necked Duck—45 Apr 6 LSB, SRF; Canvasback—240 Apr 2 Onon L (JWP); Greater Scaup—1200 Apr 2 Onon L; Lesser Scaup—40 Apr 6 LSB, SRF;—all incredibly low numbers. Bufflehead: max 125 Apr 2 with the many Horned Grebes on Onon L, the only bright spot in this spring's dismal duck flight. Oldsquaw: max only 12 Apr 8 Jamesville Res (DWC). White-winged Scoter: max 200 May 5 LOL; no late May flight noted. Ruddy Duck: total 10 Apr 2 to May 17—very scarce. Red-breasted Merganser: max only 280 Apr 7 LOL—should be in the thousands.

HAWKS—OWLS: The extensive cold and persistent north winds of March precluded significant raptor migration past DH thru that month. Consequently the Feb-Mar totals were very low (only) 1041 individuals for both months combined) and with the first surge of southerly winds Apr 3-4 a spectacular raptor flight developed. Of note is that eleven of the fourteen regular species had peak numbers

Species	Arrival Date	Maxima	90% Date Range	Departure Date	Total
Turkey Vulture	Mar 26, one	197, Apr 4	Apr 3-May 9	May 15, one	365
Goshawk	Feb 21 one	44, Apr 3 40, Apr 4	Mar 3-Apr 21	May 15, one	210
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Mar 23, eight	571, Apr 4	Apr 4-May 11	May 31, one	3492
Cooper's Hawk	Feb 28, one	47, Apr 4	Mar 23-Apr 28	May 21, one	240
Red-tailed Hawk	Feb 21, five	1184, Apr 4	Mar 6-May 11	May 29, four	3620
Red-shouldered Hawk	Mar 6, four	190, Apr 3	Mar 23-Apr 14	May 14, one	656
Broad-winged Hawk	Apr 14, 57	3201, Apr 22	Apr 21-May 15	May 31, 129	11,617
Rough-legged Hawk	Feb 19, two	16, Apr 4	Mar 3-Apr 21	May 11, two	97
Golden Eagle	Apr 3, one	five, Apr 4 five, Apr 21	Apr 4-Apr 21	Apr 28, two	16
Bald Eagle	Mar 29, one	thru, Apr 4	Apr 1-May 11	May 14, one	11
Harrier	Feb 22, two	94, Apr 4	Mar 16-Apr 28	May 31, seven	423
Osprey	Apr 4, three	46, May 11	Apr 13-May 14	May 31, two	201
Merlin	Mar 23, one	three, Apr 21	Apr 3-Apr 22	Apr 22, one	8
American Kestrel	Feb 27, one	97, Apr 4	Mar 23-Apr 21	May 31, two	468
Unidentified Hawks					342

on those two days. Another heavy migration occurred Apr 21-22 but thereafter northeast winds, rain, and cold weather produced poor migration conditions and counts were accordingly reduced in late Apr and early May. See chart for summary.

Rare raptors for the spring include a *BLACK VULTURE* (first regional record) Apr 22 (HH Axtell, J Bart, S Thomas, GAS) and a *PEREGRINE FALCON* Apr 21 (WB, DWC), both at DH.

Ruffed Grouse: terrible — max only 6 May 18 Pompey-Fabius area; most counts only 1-3/day and very little drumming heard this spring. Ring-necked Pheasant: way, way down — spring max only 6 May 16 Syr (TD) with lower numbers from Eaton, Oswego, and peripheral sectors of Syr.

Virginia Rail and Sora: arr Apr 16 1 Eaton (GC) and Apr 17 1 Scott Swamp respectively, both early. American Coot: like the ducks, a disaster as a migrant — max only 22 Apr 6 SRF, LSB.

Killdeer: max 206 Apr 2 DH; widely reported thereafter with chicks out May 30 LOL. No Black-bellied Plover, Red Knot, or Sanderling for entire spring; only 1 Ruddy Turnstone May 18 and 1 Dunlin May 18-20 near Lycoming — an incredibly poor spring migration. Tringa sandpipers except for Solitary were equally poor — max for Greater Yellow-legs 6 May 5 Pennellville and for Lesser Yellow-legs 12 May 20 Scott Swamp area with dep date for both species May 20. Pectoral Sandpiper: only 21 individuals for entire spring Apr 22 — May 16 from 18 observers. Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers: max 15 Least Syr May 19 and single Semipalmated (ridiculously low) May 17-18 SRF and May 30 Onon L.

Glaucous and Iceland Gulls: dep date Apr 6 (early) 2 and 1 respectively LSB. Ring-billed Gull: max 5000 May 5 Oswego Harbor — almost none at SP because of very high water. *LITTLE GULL*: an ad in breeding plumage May 18 Oswego Harbor, the only fancy gull of the spring (WB,PAD,FGS). All terns very scarce this spring — max Caspian 3 Apr 18 SSSP; Common 75 May 20 Oswego; Black 8 May 16 Texas.

Yellow-billed and Black-billed Cuckoos; total of 14 Black-billed and 16 Yellow-billed from 19 observers — very scarce after last year's cuckoo incursion.

Screech Owl: pair with 4 young out May 30 Eaton (CC) — early. Great Horned Owl: 1 at Nine Mile Pt Apr 7 is a new location. Singles only of Long-eared, Short-eared, and Saw-whet Owls for the spring — a poor owl season.

GOATSUCKER—STARLINGS: Whip-poor-will: arr Apr 27 1 N Syr (K Slotnick). Chimney Swift: arr Apr 28 1 Syr (JWP); max 200 near Camden May 15 (Peebles, Van Scoy). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: frankly very scarce this season — max 5 May 14 and 15 DH; usually only 1-2/day in areas away from the LOL.

Common Flicker: max 259 Apr 21 DM (FGS); in good numbers thru period with 18-30/day for a full day's birding. Red-headed Woodpecker: rather scarce — max only 3 May 14 DH and May 18 west of Oswego (CW). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: max only 7 (low) Apr 12 Syr, S Onondaga (JWP); nesting noted in Fish Gulf May 21.

Eastern Kingbird: arr May 5 (late) 2 DH; scarce thru most of May with max 33 May 12 DH. Great Crested Flycatcher: best spring ever! — max 15 May 18 CV, TRGMA. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: max 10 (record high) May 30 SP dunes in fog-and-rain grounded landbird flight (P Paquette, FGS). Willow Flycatcher: arr May 17 2 each Fox Ridge and Verona (late); max 15 May 30 Oswego (G Maxwell). Alder Flycatcher: arr May 19 1 S Onondaga; very scarce thru rest of May and many of this species and the Willow Flycatcher apparently did not arrive on territory until early June and, in some cases, not until mid-June. Olive-sided Flycatcher: arr May 18 with dep date Jun 6 involving at least 13 birds, better than average.

Arrival dates for the swallows are Bank Apr 6 LSB, Rough-winged Apr 20 DH,

Barn Apr 6 LSB, Cliff Apr 12 DH, and Purple Martin Apr 11 DH. Maxima in the thousands, perhaps ten of thousands, for Tree, Bank, and Barn Swallows with lesser numbers of Cliff Swallow and Purple Martin in an enormous stalled swallow migration DH to Oswego May 12 (FGS,GAS).

Blue Jay: first migrants at DH Apr 21 with 14 passing; max 2290 May 14 with 1065 May 15 there; still migrating up the SP dunes with 75 May 30. **COMMON RAVEN**: at the Big Moose dump May 11 (CG Spies, F LaFrance) is first record in seven years.

Tufted Titmouse: 5 singles at new locations Apr 26 to May 27. White-breasted Nuthatch: max only 14 Apr 21 DH (very low). Red-breasted Nuthatch: virtually non-existent — most observers saw none, max only 3 May 5 SSSP.

House Wren: max 35 May 18 Pompey-Fabius — extremely common and virtually everywhere this spring. Winter Wren: max 10 Apr 10 NPT (DWC); still on migration May 18 1 near Oswego (CW). Carolina Wren: singing singles at DeWitt, CV, and Nedrow — definitely increasing. Mockingbird: 1 Apr 9 Chittenango, 1 Apr 25 Syr, 1 May 18 Oswego, and 1 May 30 Onondaga L; like both Carolina Wren and Tufted Titmouse, locally expanding. Gray Catbird: arr Apr 28 1 New Woodstock (WB), a bit early; max 65 May 21 (late for such numbers) CV, S Onondaga; still migrating May 30 12 St dunes.

Wood Thrush: arr Apr 28 1 New Woodstock (WB); max 30 May 16 LOL. Hermit Thrush: scarce migrant this spring — arr Apr 10 1 Clay; max only 4 May 9 Syr. Swainson's Thrush: arr May 11 1 CV; max 17 May 17 Syr, Tully (JWP); still migrating May 30 2 SP dunes. Gray-cheeked Thrush: scarce with 1-3/day with date range May 14 to May 29. Veery: arr Apr 28 1 New Woodstock (WB); max 31 May 26 Tug Hill Plateau areas, almost certainly all breeding birds, not migrants. Eastern Bluebird: terrible — spring max only 9 Apr 4 DH; G Church, however, records 10 adults, 20 nestlings May 30 at Eaton.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr Apr 25 1 DH; moderate numbers this year with 2-11/day but no vernal incursion along L Ontario as occurs in some springs. Golden-crowned Kinglet: max 175 Apr 8 NPT (DWC): dep date May 15 2 Syr; apparently now breeding rather commonly in the spruce plantations of the southern highlands. Ruby-crowned Kinglet: arr date Apr 10 1 Eaton (GC), max a whopping 300 Apr 26 SSP (DWC); last noted May 18 with multiple sightings that date. Northern Shrike: dep date Apr 6 1 Pompey (Maurice Broun, DWC), quite late.

VIREOS—WARBLERS: the only Apr vireo record is 1 Solitary Vireo Apr 22 Syr (JWP); all seemed late in arrival but in fair numbers when they did show up. The summary for the majority of warblers is arranged in chart form — note the very low tallies of Black-and-White, Nashville, Northern Parula, Palm, Pine, Ovenbird, and Northern Waterthrush contrasting with the very high counts of Tennessee, Yellow-rumped, Blackburnian, Bay-breasted, Wilson's, and Canada Warblers. Rare warblers for the spring include a **WORM-EATING** May 15 DeWitt (RE Long) 2 Orange-crowned, a **PRAIRIE** May 27 Labrador Pond (DWC,PAD), a **KENTUCKY** May 22 Labrador Pond (DWC), and single **YELLOW-BREASTED CHATS** May 19 S Onondaga and May 26 CV (FGS).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: arr May 5 (late) 1, with max 300 May 9 both DH; last migrants May 30 12 SP dunes. **WESTERN MEADOWLARK**: 1 both singing and calling Apr 17 — May 23 NPT (DWC, mob). Red-winged Blackbird: thousands still migrating in May with 16,000 passing DH May 13 and birds still migrating in lesser numbers there May 28. **ORCHARD ORIOLE**: ad male May 13 CV (TR), only record this spring! Northern Oriole: arr Apr 22 (early) 1 Syr; max 88 May 14 DH; still migrating May 30 12 SP dunes. Rusty Blackbird: max 300 Apr 7 Scott Swamp; dep date May 18 1 TRGMA. Common Grackle:

Warbler Species	Arrival Date	Maxima	Departure Date
Black-and-white	May 1, 1, Pratts Falls	8, May 11, NPT	May 30, 1, SP
Golden-winged	May 5, 1, N Syr	10, May 18, CV, TRGMA	—
Blue-winged	May 10, 2, CV	4, May 19, CV, S Onon	—
Tennessee	May 13, 1, N Syr	125, May 22, Syr	Jun 10, 1, Syr, DeWitt
Nashville	May 4, 4, NPT	13, May 16, LOL	May 27, 2, LOL
Northern Parula	May 8, 1, DeWitt	2, May 10, LeWitt	May 21, 1, Syr
Yellow	Apr 21, 1, DH	75, May 17, CV, SRF	—
Magnolia	May 10, 1, Syr	25, May 18, CV, LOL	May 30, 11, SP
Cape May	May 8, 1, N Syr	19, May 20, CV, Skan	Jun 13, 1, Syr
Black-throated Blue	May 8, 1, N Syr	36, May 12, LOL	May 22, 2, Syr
Yellow-rumped	Apr 21, 6, DH	1000, May 9, DH	May 27, 1, CV
Black-throated Green	May 4, 1, S Onon	21, May 17, CV	May 30, 2, SP
Cerulean	May 14, 2, CV	14, May 17, CV, SRF	—
Blackburnian	May 10, 1, Syr	25, May 20 & 21, Syr	Jun 3, 1, DeWitt
Chestnut-sided	May 9, 2, DeWitt	15, May 20, Syr	Jun 1, 1, Syr
Bay-breasted	May 13, 1, N Syr	62, May 24, DeWitt	May 30, 3, Syr
Blackpoll	May 15, 1, CV	24, May 30, SP	Jun 11, 1, N Syr
Pine	Apr 12, 1, DH	2, May 5, SSSP	—
Palm	Apr 26, 6, DH	6, Apr 26, DH	May 18, 1, NPT
Ovenbird	May 1, 1, NPT	15, May 18, CV, TRGMA	—
Northern Waterthrush	Apr 29, 4, Minetto	4, May 12, LOL	—
Mourning	May 17, 1, CV	7, May 18, CV	Jun 7, 1, N Syr
Yellowthroat	May 3, 1, NPT	28, May 16, LOL	—
Hooded	May 14, 1, NPT, CV	6, May 30, LOL	—
Wilson's	May 11, 1, CV	25, May 30, SP	May 31, 1, Syr
Canada	May 14, 2, N Syr	15, May 18, CV, TRGMA	May 30, 14, SP
Redstart	May 8, 1, CV, N Syr	35, May 17, CV, Fox Ridge	Jun 2, 4, Syr

45,000 Apr 2 Onon L, an impressive tally away from LOL.

Scarlet Tanager: arr May 4 1 CV; max 25 CV, TRGMA and 25 Pompey-Fabius both May 18. Rose-breasted Grosbeak: arr May 1 CV (TR); max 44 May 17 CV, Fox Ridge (FGS). Indigo Bunting: arr May 15 1 DeWitt and 1 Eaton; very low numbers (1-12/day) thru May; numbers like last year did not arrive until early, or in some areas even, mid-June. Evening Grosbeak: max at DH 430 May 9 with dep date there May 21, 1. House Finch: expanding - 8 singing males around the University section of Syr (PAD) and 4 others noted near DeWitt (TD). Common Redpoll: dep date Apr 13 20 Clay (FGS). American Goldfinch: just swarms this spring - flocks of hundreds everywhere and spring max 1665 May 12 DH (GAS).

Savannah Sparrow: very poor spring flight - max 7 Apr 7 LOL. Vesper Sparrow: like Savannah, very low - max only 8 both Apr 7 LOL and Apr 13 Syr. Dark-eyed Junco: max 160 Apr 12 Syr; however, "hundreds" reported at Holland Patent Apr 12-27 (Van Dresar). Tree Sparrow: 1 May 14 Oswego (CW) is a record dep date. Chipping Sparrow: arr Apr 14 1 each N Syr and Cedarville; max 145 May 9 (late) DH, the one common Sparrow this spring. White-crowned Sparrow: very scarce - max a miserable 15 May 12 LOL; dep date May 22 1 E Syr (K Coyle). White-throated Sparrow: max 200 May 10 DeWitt; most observers had less than 50/day for what is normally our most common migrant sparrow. Fox Sparrow: max only 9 Apr 17 NPT; most observers had singles or none; dep date Apr 22 (early) 5 NPT. Lincoln's Sparrow: total only 5 from 19 observers. Swamp Sparrow: max 179 May 16 (late) LOL; numbers seem reduced in all local marshes. Song Sparrow: "hundreds" Apr 8-19 Holland Patent (Van Dresar) but definitely much lower counts in Syr-Oswego area (20-75/day).

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REGION 6 — ST. LAWRENCE

LEE B. CHAMBERLAINE

Spring of 1974 was cold and rainy which put migration dates back about a week later than normal. This was true of almost all species including the blackflies. Warm weather was slow in arriving and vegetation was also held back to some extent and provided a better look at many warblers.

Although the weather did not cooperate, the birds did and a very excellent array of field observations were made by the enthusiastic birder.

Excellent wading and waterfowl bird observations included Great Egret, Least Bittern and large numbers of geese and ducks. Birds of prey seemed to be on the increase, perhaps due to our high microtus populations on the Lake Plain.

The shorebird group was not as in evidence as one would expect what with wet fields and meadows. Other bird groups more than made up for this deficit.

Vireo and Warbler observations were more than spectacular and a regional first - the House Finch was an additional expected surprise.

Corrigenda: KINGBIRD XXIV No 1 January 1974 p. 34 Gadwall: Sept. 8 ED (NL); 456 WHWMA-HB;

Location Abbreviations: ED-Eldorado Shores; JB-Joseph Blake Jr. Sanctuary PRWMA-Perch River Wildlife Management Area; RMSP-Robert Moses State Park; SLR-St. Lawrence River; TP-Thompson Park Watertown; THP-Tug Hill Plateau; WHWMA-Wilson Hill Wildlife Management Area; WI-Wellesley Island.

Observers: JB—John Belknap; BB—Burrell Buffington; TC—Tom and Cathy Carrolan; LC—Lee Chamberlaine; FC—Frank Clinch; RG—Robert Gotie; NL—Nick Leone; JV—Joe VanRiet; mob—multiple observers.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: 1 immature Apr 17 PRWMA (TC); 2 Apr 18 ED (TC); 4 May 8 Massawepie Lake (BB). Horned Grebe: 1 May 11 SLR (JV) late. Pied-Billed Grebe: 6 Apr 12 PRWMA (TC); 2 May 25 WHWMA. Double-Crested Cormorant: 2 Apr. 11; 1 Apr 13 both SLR (JV); 4 May 4 ED (TC) (NL); numbers seem to be increasing from past few years of low populations. Great Blue Heron: 2 Apr 4 SLR (JV); 12 May 25 WHWMA (JV). Green Heron: 2 May 12 Brookside Cemetery (TC); numbers in Henderson Pond area up (LC). *GREAT EGRET*: 1 May 12 and again May 18 PRWMA (TC) (NL); photographed by (RG); last report in Region about 1969. *LEAST BITTERN*: 2 May 24 RMSP pond (JV); still present at end of period. American Rittern: 2 Apr 23 RMSP pond (JV). Canada Goose: maxima at Henderson Pond 8000+ Apr 13; 6000+ Apr 17 Henderson Pond (LC); first known nesting Ashland Wildlife Management Area near Three Mile Bay (LC); Mallard: wet areas in Region all seemed to have a pair of Mallards this spring. Black Duck: seem to still be decreasing and being replaced by more Mallards. Gadwall: 2 Apr 3 PRWMA (TC); Apr 10 WHWMA (JV); 2 May 22 WHWMA (TC); now a fairly common species at WHWMA (LC). Pintail: Apr 1; flocks all day Apr 12 SLR (JV); not at PRWMA in normal numbers (LC). Green-winged Teal: numbers in usual quantities (LC). Blue-winged Teal: numbers of nesting individuals seems on increase PRWMA (LC). American Wigeon: 2 Apr 5 (JV). Northern Shoveler: 2 Apr 12 PRWMA (TC); 12+ pairs Apr 18 PRWMA unusual concentration (JB); 2 Apr 27 (JV); 2 May 25 WHWMA (JV); another puddle duck which seems to be on increase in Region 6 wetlands (LC). Wood Duck: just as many as last spring—maybe more; artificial nesting structures in use throughout Region 6 wetlands (LC). Redhead: about 20 Apr 18 WHWMA (JV); 1 or 2 May 25 WHWMA (JV). Ring-necked Duck: Apr 6 SLR (JV). Canvasback: 20+ Apr 6 Henderson Harbor (LC); 1 till April 5 Robert Moses Power Dam (JV). Greater Scaup: 100+ Henderson Harbor Apr 6 (LC). Common Goldeneye: 50+ Apr Henderson Harbor (LC); 6 Apr 6 SLR (JV); May 1 last date. Bufflehead: 8 Apr 12; 2 Apr 25 WHWMA (JV); May 1 last date. Oldsquaw: ± 50 May 4 Snowshoe Point (TC). White-winged Scoter: 6 males May 4; ± 300 on horizon (TC). *RUDDY DUCK*: 7 May 19 PRWMA (TC) & (NL). Hooded Merganser: ± 50 Apr 17 PRWMA (TC). Common Merganser: 10 through period SLR (JV). Red-breasted Merganser: 5 Apr 18 ED (TC); 8 May 4 ED (TC); 1 May 21 SLR (JV).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 1 Apr 11 SLR (JV); 3 Apr 17 PRWMA (TC); 2 May 11 Henderson (LC); many more observations of this species in Henderson area than previous—maxima 5 individuals in late May (LC); nesting locations? Goshawk: WI nest as in previous years. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Apr PRWMA (TC); 1 Apr 14 (JV); 1 May 20 along Interstate 81 near Watertown (LC); 1 May 30 Sulphur Springs (TC); in greater numbers than seen in many years (LC). Coopers Hawk: 1 Apr 6; 2 Apr 13; 2 Apr 17 all Brasher State Forest (JV); 1 May 15 TP (TC); 1 through period Henderson (LC); most enjoyable seeing this accipiter with some regularity as in past years (LC). Red-tailed Hawk: present through period; another raptor whose numbers are up from previous years. Red-shouldered Hawk: Apr 4 first date (JB); may be up a little in numbers from previous years—never a very plentiful species in region. Broad-winged Hawk: 1 May 1 Brookside Cemetery (TC); 1 Chases Lake, Lewis Co May 5 another May 19 same location (TC). Rough-legged Hawk: 2 Apr 1 RMSP (JV); 1 Apr 17 PRWMA (TC); last date May 3 (JB). Bald Eagle: 1 immature May 25 WHWMA (JV). Northern Harrier: 1 Apr 6; 3 Apr 12; seem to be fewer this year (JV);

May 15 PRWMA male feeding female over nest in cattails (TC). Osprey: many sightings during period — locations Brasher State Forest — Rainbow Falls — Massawepie Lake — PRWMA — Red Lake — Black River — Sugar River; three new nesting locations found during period. American Kestrel: very common this spring with a high microtus population on the Lake Plain portion of the region (LC). Ruffed Grouse: numbers about same as last year although there may be an increase to some extent. Gray Partridge: 2 May 5 (TC); 2 May 5 (JV); numbers still low (LC). Turkey: 1 May 26 WI (TC). Virginia Rail: first date Apr 25 (JB). Sora: first date 30 RMSP (JV); early. Common Gallinule: first date Apr 25 (JB). American Coot: first date May 5. Killdeer: about normal in numbers. Woodcock: 3 Apr 22 (JV). Common Snipe: 3 Apr 4 (TC); 4 Apr 6 (JV). Upland Sandpiper: 3 Apr 25 (JV). Spotted Sandpiper: May 1 first date. Solitary Sandpiper: 1 May 18 (TC); 1 May 19 WHWMA (JV). Greater Yellowlegs: 5 May 9 near Lowville (TC). Least Sandpiper: 12± May 12 on Mill Creek (TC); 4 May 19 in plowed field Helena (JV). Dunlin: 3 May 18 PRWMA (NL).

Great Blackbacked Gull: 2 Apr 6; 2 Apr 26; 1 May 25 all RMSP (JV). Ring-billed Gull: colony of 5000-8000 ½ mile upstream of Robert Moses Power Dam, 3 yrs ago about 2000 in colony (JV); number in Henderson area up to or exceeds population of 3 years ago; thousands come inland to plowed lands every day (LC). Bonaparte's Gull: 1 Apr 5; 1 Apr; 1 Apr 18 SLR (JV). Common Tern: 6 May 25 WHWMA (JV). Black Tern: May 3 first date. Mourning Dove: numbers still seem to be increasing in corn-belt in Jefferson Co (LC). Great Horned Owl: seen thru period. **SHORT-EARED OWL**: 5 Apr 3 Chaumont (TC); 1 May 30 Chaumont (TC) late.

GOATSUCKERS—STARLINGS: Whip-poor-will: May 21 first date. Common Nighthawk: May 21 first date. Chimney Swift: May 1 first date. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: May 14 first date. Belted Kingfisher: Apr 13 first date. Common Flicker: Apr 6 first date. Pileated Woodpecker: 3 Apr 17 PRWMA. Red-headed Woodpecker: 2 May 15 PRWMA (TC); 1 28 SLR (JV). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: Apr 14 first date. Eastern Kingbird: May 3 first date. Great Crested Flycatcher: May 11 first date. Eastern Phoebe: Apr 6 first date. **YELLOW-BELLIED FLY-CATCHER**: 1 May 23 Helena (JV). Alder Flycatcher: May 25 first date. Least Flycatcher: many May 11 (TC). Eastern Wood Pewee: May 22 first date. Horned Lark: Apr 11. Tree Swallow: Apr 4 first date. Bank Swallow: May 2 first date. Rough-winged Swallow: May 12 first date. Barn Swallow: Apr 18 first date. Cliff Swallow: Apr 28 first date. Purple Martin: Apr 25 first date. Red-breasted Nuthatch: 3 May 11 TP (TC). House Wren: May 1 first date. Winter Wren: Apr 13. Long-billed Marsh Wren: May 19 first date. Gray Catbird: May 4 first date. Brown Thrasher: Apr 21 first date. Wood Thrush: May 10 first date. Hermit Thrush: 1 Apr 20 WHWMA (JV); 5± May 27 THP (TC). Swainson's Thrush: 1 May 18 (JB); 1 May 27 THP (TC). Veery: May 11 first date. Eastern Bluebird: 2 Apr 12 (TC); only report during period. **BLUE-GRAY GNAT-CATCHER**: 1 Apr 25 Emeryville, St. Lawrence County (A LaFave); 2 May ED (TC) (NL). Golden-crowned Kinglet: good flights starting about mid Apr (JB). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: good flights starting mid Apr (JB). Water Pipit: May 15 (TC); 1 May 19 Helena (JV). Cedar Waxwing: May 22 first date. Loggerhead Shrike: Apr 8 first date (JV).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: 1 May 12; 3 May 12; 3 May 18 JB; 5 May 26 WI; 2 May 27 THP all (TC). Solitary Vireo: 2 May 5 Chases Lake; 1 May 18 (JB); 1 May 19 Jefferson Community College (TC). Red-eyed Vireo: May 15 first date. **PHILADELPHIA VIREO**: 1 May 19 JB (TC); May 22 (JV). Warbling Vireo: May 4 first date. Black-and-White Warbler: May 1 first date. **GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER**: 3 May 28 Muskalonge Lake (TC); singing

males seen in at least six locations mostly near Bolton Corners or Peabody Bridge — I have seen more in past two weeks than any previous year — no question but the Golden-wing is now well established as a summer resident in this area (JB). **BREWSTER'S WARBLER**: 1 May 28 Muskalonge Lake Rd (TC). **TENNESSEE WARBLER**: 6± May 18 JB; ±5 May 18 Middle Rd Jeff Co (TC); 1 May 21 near Gouverneur (JB); 1 May 22 (JV); 1 May 23 (JV); 2 May 23 (JV); 6 May 25 (JV); 1 May 26 WI (TC); an excellent year. Nashville Warbler: May 11 first date; 20± May 29 Muskalonge Lk Rd (TC). Northern Parula Warbler: 1 May 12 TP (TC). Yellow Warbler: May 12 first date. Magnolia Warbler: May 15 first date. **CAPE MAY WARBLER**: May 15 first date; 5 May 15 TP (TC); maxima 6 May 25 (JV); last date May 29 (JV); a good year. Black-throated Blue Warbler: May 11 first date. Yellow-rumped Warbler: Apr 26 first date. Black-throated Green Warbler: May 5 first date. **CERULEAN WARBLER**: 2 May 15 TP (TC). Blackburnian Warbler: May 15 first date. Chestnut-sided Warbler: May 11 first date. Bay-breasted Warbler: May 15 first date; maxima May 25. **BLACK-POLL WARBLER**: May 21 first date; 3 May 24 (JV); 5 May 25 (JV); last date May 30. **PINE WARBLER**: 2 May 25 (JV). Palm Warbler: 1 May 12 at feeder (TC). Northern Waterthrush: May 18 first date. Common Yellowthroat: May 12 first date. **WILSON'S WARBLER**: 1 May 21 Massena (JV); 3 May 23 Dennison Rd (JV); last date May 23. Canada Warbler: May 21 first date. American Redstart: May 12 first date.

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Bobolink: May 11 first date; in good numbers this spring (LC). Eastern Meadowlark: Apr 3 migrants. Red-winged Blackbird: as abundant as ever. Northern Oriole: May 6 first date. Rusty Blackbird: Apr 12 first date; May 14 last date. Common Grackle: Apr 2 first date; as common as ever. Brown-headed Cowbird: seemed to be many many more than usual. Scarlet Tanager: May 11 first date; either in greater numbers or easier to see during cold spell (LC). Cardinal: normal spring shift to summer habitat very evident this year (LC). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: May 11 first date. Indigo Bunting: May 19 first date; seem more prevalent this year (LC). Evening Grosbeak: still around at end of period. Purple Finch: small numbers around thru period. **HOUSE FINCH**: one male and female Apr 28-29 at window feeder in with Purple Finches — female did not have pattern on side of head as female Purple Finch (FC); (mob); a regional first and not too surprising as they have been moving our way (LC). Common Redpoll: May 18 last date — late. Pine Siskin: May 18 last date. American Goldfinch: May 1 arrival in numbers; very plentiful in Henderson area (LC). Rufous-sided Towhee: Apr 17 first date; in numbers Apr 22. Savannah Sparrow: Apr 13 first date. Vesper Sparrow: Apr 6 first date. Dark-eyed Junco: heavy movement Apr 6 (LC); last at low elevations May 26 (TC). Tree Sparrow: last date May 9. Chipping Sparrow: Apr 17 first date. Field Sparrow: Apr 21 first date. White-crowned Sparrow: May 5 first date; May 20 last date. White-throated Sparrow: Apr 22 first date. **LINCOLN'S SPARROW**: 1 May 7 trapped and banded Watertown (FC) (TC). Swamp Sparrow: Apr 12 first date. Snow Bunting: last date Apr 12.

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REGION 7 — ADIRONDACK-CHAMPLAIN

THEODORE D. MACK

April's weather was normal for the area. Slowly running water was still iced over as late as the 11th in the Paul Smiths area, much to the disgust of local trout

fishermen. A week later considerable progress was made in the melting department and on April 23 the ice went out of Schroon Lake. The rainfall in May was about normal with some rain most days, but the overall mean temperature was 42.1 degrees as recorded at Ray Brook, a cool 10 degrees below the usual average. Our last snow was a half inch on May 9.

Observers: PA—Pat Anson; JB—Jean Beck; JOB—Jonathan Beck; GC—Goeffrey Carleton; AG—August Gabel; RG—Rosanna Grover; HPAud—High Peaks Audubon; CK—Charles Kays; FL—Ferdinand LaFrance; NM—Norman Mason; RM—Ruth Meier; TM—Ted Mack; EP—Elizabeth Peterson; JP—John Peterson; WP—William Peterson; GR—Gary Randorf; PR—Pat Randorf; WR—William Rutherford.

Abbreviations: BTP—Brown's Tract Ponds; Crn Pt—Crown Point; E'town—Elizabethtown; Es—Essex; FF—Franklin Falls; Gab—Gabriels; Ke—Keene; Mad—Madawaska; Min—Minerva Mor—Moriah L Cham—Lake Champlain; PS—Paul Smiths; Plat—Plattsburgh; PHen—Port Henry; Sar L—Saranac Lake; Wes—Westport; Wil—Willsboro.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon: max 5 Apr 18 Sch L (JB); 1 May 11 PS (WR); 1 May 26 Es (JP). Red-necked Grebe: 2 Apr 27 Wes (NM); max 5 May 8 Sch L (JB). Horned Grebe: max 9 Apr 3 Wil (JP); 1 May 28 Es (JP). Pied-billed Grebe: only report 1 Apr 3 Es (JP). Double-crested Cormorant: 1 May 11 Plat (GC); 1 May 31 Wes (JP). Great Blue Heron: widely reported. Green Heron: 1 May 18 Osgood Pond, PS (TM); 1 May 21 Crn Pt (NM&JP). American Bittern: first May 5 TL (RM); 1 May 25 Saranac Inn (TM). Whistling Swan: 1 Mar 31 over Wes (AG); 1 May 2-12 plus TL many observers. Brant: 23 May 11 Plat (GC). Snow Goose: many flocks; first Apr 5 Wes (AG); max 100 Apr 30 North Hudson (M. McKenzie); 18 May 11 Sch L (JB). Mallard: 1 Apr 27 BTP (FL); pair May Coreys (RM), usual locations. Pintail: 1 Apr 24 Sch L (JB). Green-winged Teal: several inland reports; 2 pair Apr 13, an early date, Lewis (GC). Blue-winged Teal: reported as common in L Cham area. American Wigeon: 2 Apr 3 Es (JP). Wood Duck: first, a pair Apr 4 Sch L (JB). Ring-necked Duck: first Apr 3 Es (JP). Greater Scaup: first Apr 1 Es (JP). White-winged Scoter: 8 May 23 Bulwagga Bay, L Cham (GC). Hooded Merganser: first 2 Apr 7 Es (JP).

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: 1 Apr 18 Ti (Janet Cooper); 3 Apr 29 Crn Pt (GC & NM); 1 May 6 Es (JP). Goshawk: a few, as usual. Sharp-shinned Hawk: 1 Apr 10 Sch L (JB); 1 Apr 27 BTP (FL). Cooper's Hawk: 1 Apr 3 Mor (NM); 1 Apr 13 Sch L (JB). Red-tailed Hawk: many reports. Red-shouldered Hawk: 6 birds reported. Broad-winged Hawk: numerous reports; first 2 Apr 20 FF (TM). Rough-legged Hawk: several; last Apr 14 Es (Fred McCamic). Golden Eagle: 1 mature bird Apr 17 (Clarence Petty); 1 migrating Apr 22 E'town (AG). Marsh Hawk: 1 Apr 4 Wes (AG); 1 Apr 6 Gab (TM); 1 Apr 28 Mor (Helen Phinney). Osprey: 10 birds reported from PS to L Cham. Merlin: 1 Apr 7 Ti (JB); 1 Apr 9 Sch L (JB); 1 Apr 12 E'town (GC); 1 Apr 13 Min (CK). Kestrel: first inland birds—1 Gab, 1 FF Apr 6 (TM). Spruce Grouse: 1 male May 27 Mad (Gordon Meade & Joseph Taylor). Killdeer: 1 flying thru heavy snow Apr 9 PS (TM); very common L Cham Valley (JP). American Woodcock: good numbers. Spotted Sandpiper: 1 May 1 Wes (JP&WP); 1 May 6 PS (TM); max 4 May 18 Es (HPAud). Solitary Sandpiper: 1 Apr 26 Es (JP); 1 May 18 Es (HPAnd). Greater Yellowlegs: 3 May 1-3 L Cham (JP). Glaucous Gull: 1 immature seen in flight and perched May 11 Plat (GC). Great Black-backed Gull: 1 Apr 17 Wes (AG); 1 May 23 PHen (GC). Bonaparte's Gull: 100 in breeding plumage May 14 Plat (GC). Caspian Tern: 1 May 15 PHen (GC&NM), large size and huge red bill seen as it dove. Mourning Dove: 1 Apr

2 TL (RM); 1 Apr 7 Ke (TM); also usual locations of L Cham & E'town. Black-billed Cuckoo: 1 May 19 Es (E&JP). Screech Owl: 1 gray phase Apr 4 E'town (Freda Howard). Great Horned Owl: 2 Apr 2 Es (E & JP); 2 young in a nest May 9 Wil (PA); pair May TL (RM).

GOATSUCKER—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: 1 Apr 28 Ke (GR); 1 Apr 28-30 TL (RM). Ruby-throated Hummingbird: 1 May 12 Wes (AG). Red-headed Woodpecker: 1 May 15 Wil (JP); 1 May 27 E'town (E&JP). Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: an early bird Apr 14 E'town (GC). Black-backed Three-toed Woodpecker: 1 Apr 21 Lake Placid (P&GR); 2 Apr 27 BTP (FL). Northern Three-toed Woodpecker: 3 Apr 27 BTP (FL). Eastern Kingbird: 1 exceptionally early bird Apr 12 Wes (Charlotte Allen), no details. Great Crested Flycatcher: ax 6 May 18 Es (HPAud). Eastern Phoebe: first inland bird Apr 7 Wilmington (TM). Eastern Wood Pewee: first May 14 Wes (Deborah Anson). Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 late transient May 30 Wes (GC). Tree Swallow: first Apr 3 Wes (AG); 100 Apr 6 Sar L (TM). Barn Swallow: first Apr 17 Sch L (JB). Bank Swallow: arrived May 11 Olmstedville (CK). Rough-winged Swallow: first May 19 Es (JP). Cliff Swallow: first arrivals May 14 PS (TM). Purple Martin: arrived Apr 25 Sch L (JB); max 17 May 18 Es (HPAud). Gray Jay: 3 Apr 27 BTP (FL); 1 May 2 Mad (GR & Greenleaf T. Chase). Common Raven: 1 Apr 7 Ke (GC); 2 adults with 5 fully fledged young May 10-14 Indian Lake (JOB), verified and photographed by JP, one of the adults seen also by Thomas H. Davis and others; 1 May 15 Cascade Lake (Marguerite Kingsbury). Boreal Chickadee: 4 Apr 27 BTP (FL). Tufted Titfouse: 1 singing May 23 Wes (GC). Brown Creeper: max 6 Apr 27 BTP (FL). House Wren: first May 1 Wes (AG); max 15 May 18 Es (HPAud). Winter Wren: good numbers, first Apr 4 Ke (GR). Mockingbird: 1 May 18 Crn Pt (GC); 1 May 25 Mor (RG). Brown Thrasher: first Apr 15 Ke (GR). Hermit Thrush: good numbers. Swainson's Thrush: very scarce, you may not always have one in a day of birding; "Big Day" count at Es May 18 yielded one bird. Veery: first May 4 Ke (GR). Eastern Bluebird: an encouraging number of reports from many areas. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: 1 Apr 27 BTP (FL); 1 May 9 Sar L (Joseph Keji); May 11 Es (JP); 1 May 13 P Hen (GC&NM); 1 May 24 E'town (NM&JP); this is an unusual bird for this 4 county area. Northern Shrike: Apr 4 Es (PA).

VIREOS—WARBLERS: Yellow-throated Vireo: 1 Apr 22 Sch L (JB). Solitary Vireo: first Apr 21 E'town (GC); usual numbers. Red-eyed Vireo: first Apr 28 Ke (GR). Philadelphia Vireo: singing bird May 30 Wes (GC). Warbling Vireo: several L Cham reports. Black-and-White Warbler: first Apr 29 E'town and Mor (GC&NM). Tennessee Warbler: several from L Cham area. Nashville, Yellow, and Magnolia Warblers: good numbers. Cape May Warbler: numbers seem unusually high with at least 10 reports from PS to L Cham. Black-throated Blue Warbler: good numbers. Yellow-rumped Warbler: first Apr 15 Es (JP). Black-throated Green Warbler: numbers somewhat over last year's low. Pine Warbler: 2 May 18 Es (HPAud); 1 May 19 Lincoln Pond (NM). Palm Warbler: 1 May 4 Ironville (HPAud). Northern Waterthrush: several reports. Wilson's Warbler: 1 May 25 Mor (RG).

BLACKBIRDS—SPARROWS: Northern Oriole: first May 4 Wes and Mor (AG&NM); max 27 May 18 Es (HPAud). Rusty Blackbird: 2 Apr 27 Mad (JP & TM); 4 Apr 29 Crn Pt GC & (NM). Brown-headed Cowbird: large flock Apr 1 TL (RM). Scarlet Tanager: max 12 May 18 Es (HPAud). Cardinal: several wintered at Sch L; max 10 May 18 Es (HPAud). Rose-breasted Grosbeak: first May 11 PS (WR); 1 May 11 Sch L (JB). Indigo Bunting: first May 15 Wallonsburg (Kirke Learning). Purple Finch: quite common during first weeks of April. Hoary Redpoll: 1 Apr 9-14 E'town (Irene & GC), full details. Common Redpoll:

abundant this year; latest Apr 26 E'town (GC). Pine Siskin: a few reports. American Goldfinch: max 53 May 18 Es (HPAud). Red Crossbill: max 4 May 1-4 Es (JP&WP). White-winged Crossbill: 1 Apr 1-6 TL (RM); 2 Apr 3 Sch L (HPAud); 6 Apr 21 Wes (AG). Rufous-sided Towhee: first Apr 6 Es feeder (E&JP); max 4 May 18 Es (HPAud); 1 May 21 TL (RM). Vesper Sparrow: several reports from PS to L Cham. Dark-eyed Junco: large flock arrived TL Apr 5 (RM); max 450 in two flocks Apr 24 E'town (GC). Tree Sparrow: 1 late bird May 14 Es (JP). Chipping Sparrow: several Apr 6 Wes feeder (Ruth & Carlin Walker). Field Sparrow: Apr 5 Sch L feeder (JB). White-crowned Sparrow: first 2 Apr 8 TL (RM); 4 Apr 15 Sch L (JB). Lincoln's Sparrow: 1 May 14 Min (JOB & JP). Swamp Sparrow: first Apr 12 Es (JP). Song Sparrow: 1 singing Apr 5 TL (RM).

REGION 9 — DELAWARE-HUDSON

EDWARD D. TREACY

Once again, ice left the Hudson River by late Feb and most waterfowl went thru in early March. There were no peaks. April was warm with near normal precipitation, just less than 4½ inches. In the mid-Hudson Valley, foliage came on early by about 1 week. May was cool with precipitation average at slightly more than 4½ inches.

The migration showed certain species scarce but others were well represented, some even at record highs as the report will show. Most important warbler movements occurred on weekends when birders could take advantage of them. Most of the "big day" counts in the region were better than average in both species and numbers.

Observers cited: MB—Marty Borko; RFD—Robert F. Deed; FG—Florence Germond; TG—Tom Gilbert; VBG—Vivian and Bill Gilbert; TH—Thelma Haight; FH—Fred Hough; AJ—Alice Jones; MJK—Mary and Jim Key; EK—Eric Kiviati; ML—Mabel Little; HM—Helen Manson; HDM—Hugh D. McGuiness; ABM—Al and Barbara Merritt; KN—Ken Niven; JCO—John C. Orth; VP—Vivian Parkhurst; BS—Beedy Serra; RS—Robert Smart; DS—Dan Smiley; WTS—William and Trixie Strauss; JT—John Tripp; JPT—John P. Tramontano; EDT—Edward D. Treacy; MVW—Marion VanWagner; OW—Otis Waterman.

Abbreviations: First four letters of each county; MBC—Mearns Bird Club; WBC—Waterman Bird Club; SCAS—Sullivan County Audubon Soc.; MC—Mearns Bird Club "Big Day" May 18; WC—Waterman Bird Club Census May 18; USMA—U.S. Military Academy, West Point; Pok—Poughkeepsie.

LOONS—DUCKS: Common Loon; no flights reported, but single birds reported on Hudson at Cornwall from Apr 21-May 18; Dutch Apr 6-8; Long Pond, Dutch May 18-26; and Mud Pond, Dutch May 26-27. Red-throated Loon: 1 May 30 Hudson at Bear Mt. (JCO). Double-crested Cormorant: 8 WC (AJ). Great Blue Heron: Tamarack heronry with 9 nests counted and better than 25 residents. LITTLE BLUE HERON: 1 Apr 24 Crugers Is. (EK). Great Egret: 1 Apr 6 Tivoli; Black-crowned Night Heron: max 5 Cruger's Is. from Apr 27-May 11 (EK). Least Bittern: early, Apr 26 Cruger's; usual numbers thru region thereafter. Mute Swan: sev nesting records in Oran and Sull; a pr on Garrison's Rd, Fort Montgomery hatched 7 young May 8. WHISTLING SWAN: 1 Apr 6 Tivoli; 1 Apr 17 Traver Swamp, Dutch, Canada Goose: excellent numbers on migration; most ponds have 1 or more pr; at least 5 families were at Queensboro L, Bear Mt. Park, at end of season. Brant; 350 on WC (BF); 75 May 19 over Weyant's

Pd (EDT); 275 May 19 over Cornwall (ABM); 500 May 18 near Kripplebush (FH); an interesting report of 1 found dead on road in Dutch near Standfordville (TH). Snow Goose; 60 Apr 5; 150 Apr 10 over Cornwall (ABM); 7 separate flocks at Tivoli Apr 8 numbers between 600-800; 75 on ground at Buttermilk Pd. Dutch, Apr 13-14, 1 Blue Goose was among them, Pintail: 8 Apr 10 Goshen (EDT); 8 Apr 6 Crugers; 12 Apr 8-12 Crugers; 3 May 17 Fair Oaks, Oran, were very late. (JPT). Shoveler: 1 Apr 13 Crugers; 1 Apr 9 Morgan Lk. (AJ). Wood Duck: only 12 on WC was low for that count; numbers down thru region. Canvasback: max better than 300 Apr 8 Tivoli, reduced to 4 by Apr 13 (AJ). Common Goldeneye: a male May 8-11 Crugers, a very late record. Bufflehead: 1 May 2 L Tiorati was very late (JCO). Oldsquaw: 1 Apr 26 Cruger's (EK). White-winged Scoter: 3 Apr 8 Cruger's (MVW). Black Scoter: 11 Apr 8 Cruger's. Red-breasted Merganser: 13 May 2, an extremely late date (EK).

HAWKS—OWLS: Goshawk: only report 1 Apr 20 Dutchess Hill. Red-shouldered Hawk: more than usual; 2 Apr 26 Amenia; 2 Apr 22 Dutchess Hill (VBG); 1 May 5 Clausland Mt. (RFD); 1 Apr 28 White Lake, Sull (AJ). Broad-winged Hawk: only flight reported was Apr 28 near Kripplebush (FH); spring movement less than usual. Rough-legged Hawk: 1 Apr 12 Sharp Res. Dutch (AJ). **GOLDEN EAGLE:** 2 over Hudson in Dutch by Prof. Feldman (AJ). Bald Eagle: 1 Apr 17 adult. Stissing; 1 adult Apr 13 Crugers; 1 imm Apr 18 Dutch (TG); 4 in SE Sull at start of period down to 1 by May 11 (mob). Osprey: none on WC; first Apr 6 (WBC). Ruffed Grouse: increasing in Mohonk area (DS). Bobwhite: only reports were a few in Dutch. Turkey: 2 Apr 28 at Tamarack Sw; usual few reports from south Sull. Rails: usual reports of Virginia and Sora. King Rail: 1 Apr 27 Dutch (RS); another at Iona Is May 12 (EDT). Common Gallinule: at least 5 pr breeding near Crugers, first obs there May 5 (EK); numbers generally good thru region. Shorebirds: usual to better; drainage of sewage pond near Goshen produced good numbers and variety for MC. Black-bellied Plover: 1 near Crugers May 24 (EK). Common Snipe: first Apr 3 in Dutch; inc to 20 by Apr 13; 24 on Apr 20, Black Meadow Rd, Chester. Pectoral Sandpiper: 1 May 19 Hyde Park (AJ); another on MC was new to that count; 1 May 14 S Spring Valley. Least Sandpiper. good numbers from the May 1 on; several hundred at Crugers May 20; excellent numbers at Goshen Sewage Pond thru much of May. Dunlin: 1 May 10-11 Fallkill Pk (AJ); 1 May Briarcliff (TH). Dowitcher: more than usual; 5 on WC; 12 May 19; 7 same date Hyde Park (AJ). Semipalmated Sandpiper: 2 May 13-19 Hopewell Jct (AJ). Bonaparte's Gull: 1 Apr 27 Hudson off Dutch (Jeff Daley); 3 Mar 24 Bashakill (SCAS); 35 Apr 14 Kiamesha L (KN). Black Tern: 1 May 5 over Pleasant Valley (MVW); 1 May 17 Goshen (JPT). Barn Owl: 1 May 17 Middletown; 2 all season Warwick (JPT).

GOATSUCKERS—STARLING: Whip-poor-will: first 2 Apr 30 Red Oaks Mill (MJK). Nighthawk: first May 15 Dutch; regular after that date, but not in quantities in Dutch; max more than 30 May 17 Bashakill. Ruby-throated Hummingbird: numbers better than recently but still below normal. Common Flicker: very heavy movement reported in Dutch Apr 6-8. Red-bellied Woodpecker: 2-3 residents reported from most counties; numbers holding but not increasing. Red-headed Woodpecker: numbers lower than usual; very local thru region. Yellow-bellied Sapsucker: all reports Apr; 2 males "bickering" over 1 female Weyants Pd Apr 12 (EDT). Eastern Kingbird: arr late, numbers normal at end of period. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher: 3 on WC were only reports. **ACADIAN FLYCATCHER:** 2 at Deep Hollow, Dutch on WC. (FG). Willow Flycatcher: a pr nesting for 2nd consecutive year at Francher-Davidge Pk, Middletown (JPT) Alder Flycatcher: 1 June 2 Otisville (MB); several other Traill's type reported but observers do not specify which. Pewee: 23 on WC must be the largest number reported for a single

day. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 1 WC was quite early. Tree Swallow: in good numbers and widespread by Apr 7; FG found 5 dead in Bluebird boxes on Mar 30. Bank Swallow: first Apr 13 Beaver Dam, Dutch. Rough-winged Swallow: only 2 on WC was very low; numbers normal elsewhere. Cliff Swallow: migrants scattered thru May in Dutch; an unusual 80-100 May 27 at Ashokan Res (HDM). Purple Martin: obs nesting in 3 areas in Dutch in Apr; nesting at Circleville, a new area for Oran. (JT). Fish Crow: the perennial few are back in their areas. Tufted Titmouse: 53 on WC, up from avg of 30, first on that count in 1953. Red-breasted Nuthatch: fewer than usual; resident at Mohonk and Kripplebush: House Wren: first Apr 14 Dutch (MJK). Winter Wren: obs singing in Fahnstock Pk thru season (ML); also obs regularly thru May in Dutch in 3 locations. Carolina Wren: widely reported; numbers appear good; EDT obs 2 ad feeding 5 fledgling on ground at Dunderberg Mt May 12. Long-billed Marsh Wren: late but usual numbers by end of period. Mockingbird: 98 on WC, 65 last year; not reported until 1961 on that count. Brown Thrasher: only 19 on WC is indicative of population "crash" that has occurred, usually 40 is avg for that count; numbers severely reduced thru entire region. Wood Thrush: 1 Apr 12 Dutch was very early. Swainson's Thrush: possibility of nesting in Putnam Valley, but not proven (Ralph O'Dell). Grey-cheeked Thrush: more than usual and many singing. Veery: generally late and low numbers thru period. Bluebird: best nesting results in recent years in Dutch; of 46 boxes checked Apr 29 and 30, 11 were occupied and 1 had 7 eggs (FG); May showed 13 nestings with over 60 young. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: best year ever; any walk in the Weyants Pd area produced from 3 to 6 birds; 2 pr nesting Apr 27 (EDT). Ruby-crowned Kinglet: heavy thru Apr; few by May 7; MC and WC produced only single birds. Water Pipit: very few reports; 1 on WC and 1 May 22 near Putnam Valley. Loggerhead Shrike: only 1 Apr 4 at Greenville (Iris Dean).

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Vireos: most late and few by end of season. White-eyed Vireo: single birds on WC and MC. Solitary Vireo: 1 Apr 6 Cornwall; 1 Apr 28 Livingston Manor; 2 last week of Apr in Dutch. Red-eyed Vireo: late and less than last year which was poor. Philadelphia Vireo: only 1 on MC (John Sero). very few; 1 Apr 29 Red Oaks Mill; 1 Apr 30 Pond Gut. Warblers: waves noted most areas on Apr 28-29, May 12-13, May 18, May 28. Worm-eating Warbler: very few reported; absent from most haunts; first May 12 Thompson Pd. Tennessee Warbler: 1st May 12 at Dunderberg Mt; an extraordinary 104 on WC, previous high was 30 in 1961. **ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER:** 1 on WC (no details); 1 May 20 Bashakill (FG, et al). Parula Warbler: 24 on WC which avg 14. Cape May Warbler: very scarce; only reports on MC and WC, and 1 May 14 Thompson Pd. Cerulean Warbler: always rare but regular; this year less than usual; only 3 birds in Dutch and 1 at Weyant's Pd. on WC and MC respectively; did not return to Cruger's this year. Blackburnian Warbler: scarce max 5 May 1 (WTS). Bay-breasted Warbler: better than usual esp from May 13-27, 37 on WC whose previous high was only 11. Northern Waterthrush: 14 on WC which avg 7. Louisiana Waterthrush: at Mohonk Apr 4, unusually early (DS). Mourning Warbler: 1 seen and heard at Thompson Pd May 27; 1 May 20 Bashakill (FG et al). Yellow-breasted Chat: 2 on WC; 1 Bashakill May 20; 2 June 9 Mine Rd, USMA. Hooded Warbler: failed to return to most haunts; 2 on WC. Wilson's Warbler: better than usual; first 2 May 1 Mine Rd. (Paul Jeheber); 12 on WC. Canada Warbler: 43 on WC, usual avg 20; excellent numbers that date thru region. Redstart: 147 on WC, usually 70.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Bobolink; 1 Apr 30 near Red Oaks Mill; early usual numbers and locations at end of period. **YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD:** 1 Apr 6 Buttermilk Pd, Dutch with about 1000 Redwings. (RS) Orchard Oriole: a singing male at Moore's Mills and a female at the home of MVW Dutch on

May 13; 2 May 17 East Park, Dutch (TG). Rusty Blackbird: only a few, max 30 Apr 17 Bashakill (MB). Common Grackle: an unusual record of 1 nesting in hole in a deciduous tree about 6 ft. off ground at Weyants Pd May 18 (EDT). Scarlet Tanager: first May 11, late; numbers good; kill of northern New England not observed this far south. Indigo Bunting: first May 8 Weyants Pd; numbers good at end of period. DICKCISSEL: 1 adult in excellent plumage Pok Apr 1-16, feeding with House Sparrows at home of Mr. & Mrs. Edward Seift (OW). Evening Grosbeak; numbers dwindling in May; left just before most censuses. Common Redpoll: good wintering numbers continued thru April; last May 7 near Pok (MJK). Pine Siskin: thought they'd never leave; exc numbers thru latter May; last May 24, Dutch. White-winged Crossbill: thru season till May 17 at Millbrook (R. Davis). Savannah Sparrow. numbers reduced; down to 11 on WC from avg of 20. Grasshopper Sparrow: always low; a healthy 7 on WC. Vesper Sparrow: at Cornwall Apr 12; very few reports thereafter. Dark-eyed Junco: very common first week of Apr; resident at end of period at Deep Hollow, Dutch where they have been known to nest in the past. CLAY-COLORED SPARROW: one single adult at Rockefeller Inst, Town of Washington, Dutch from May 25 thru end of period (RS, Don Kroodsmma). White-crowned Sparrow: good migration; 10 on WC; last May 20. White-throated Sparrow: Excellent movement first week of May; last May 19 in most areas. Fox Sparrow: 2 late dates of Apr 23 and 25 in Dutch. (Westchester birders and bird clubs: we are presently getting no reports from your area. Help!)

Pellwood Lake, Highland Falls, N.Y. 10928

REGION 10 — MARINE

HUGH D. MCGUINNESS AND PETER M. POLSHEK

Erratic fluctuations in the weather characterized the spring of 1974. Throughout March and April periods of mild temperature and fair winds — ostensibly the herald of the new season — were unexpectedly followed by cold air masses from the northwest which rendered a reversion to winter weather. The effects of the abrupt changes were apparent: many species arrived well ahead of schedule, however, the precocious nature of the migration never developed into more than a smattering of early arrivals, for each cold wave precluded the possibilities of an advanced migration. Typical of the entire season was the situation in late April when the migration was farther advanced than it has been in years. Many early-May migrants, such as Blue-winged, Parula, and Yellow Warblers etc., were represented in moderate numbers, but northerly winds in early May countered the early push, resulting in other species (e.g. Red-eyed Vireo, Redstart, and Indigo Bunting) not arriving in normal numbers until later than expected. Warm southerly pushes occurred on Ap 3, 4, 15, 21, 28, 29, May 2, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 22, 25, & 26.

On the roseate side this season were: 1) scattered reports of Red-shouldered Hawk in NYC parks, including one breeding attempt 2) early optimistic signs concerning the viability of Osprey eggs 3) good numbers of White-rumped Sandpiper 4) species with a southern affinity continued to increase as spring migrants, most notably: Chuck-will's-widow; Red-bellied Woodpecker; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher; Prothonotary, Cerulean, Yellow-throated, Kentucky, and Hooded Warblers; and Summer Tanager 5) large numbers of certain northern breeders including Olive-sided Flycatcher; Nashville, Magnolia, Bay-breasted, Tennessee, Cape-May, and Mourning Warblers; and Lincoln's Sparrow 6) good numbers of Red-headed Woodpecker 7) continued eastward expansion of Tufted Titmouse on LI. On the

dismal side were low numbers of Pied-Billed Grebe, Cattle Egret, Harrier, Short-eared Owl, and Black-throated Green Warbler.

Rarities included in this report are: Northern Fulmar; Purple Gallinule; Buff-breasted Sandpiper; Ruff; Gull-billed Tern Philadelphia Vireo; and Golden-crowned Sparrow.

Abbreviations: APP—Alley Pond Park; BBG—Bronx Botanical Gardens; CP—Central Park; CRSP—Connetquot River State Park; FP—Forest Park; JBWR—Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; OB—Oak Beach; RMSP—Robert Moses State Park; TPS—Tobay Pond Sanctuary.

Collaborator: Thomas H Davis (THD)-editor NY Rare Bird Alert, phone number 212-832-6523.

Sub-regional Compilers: Ralph Cioffi; Fran File; Roger F. Pasquier; Lore J Schore; Joseph Zeranski.

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PELAGIC: Only 1 trip was taken to Cox's Ledge with the following results; May 26 (THD,PMP,PL,AL et al): 4 *NORTHERN FULMAR*; 1 Greater Shearwater; 40 Sooty Shearwater; 1 Manx Shearwater; 8 Gannet; 92 Wilson's Storm-Petrel; 8 Northern Phalarope; 1 Pomarine Jaeger; 2 Parasitic Jaeger; 3 unidentified Jaeger.

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-necked Grebe: thru-Apr 18 OB (mob)-on latter date bird was in full breeding plumage. Great Cormorant: 8 Ap 7 Rye (TWB). Cattle Egret: arr Ap 6 Brookhaven (DP) and Lawrence (JA,RK)—generally quite scarce this spring. Little Blue Heron: arr Mar 31 OB (R); 10 Ap 7 OB (THD et al)-Bull (1964) lists this species as rare before late April, however, the data from recent years indicates that this species arrives in our area by early April, being rare before then. Yellow-crowned Night Heron: 3 nests Rye (TWB)-rare away from the coast. Brant: stayed very late in large numbers e.g. 3000 May 26 around west pond area of JBWR (JA,HM). Green-winged Teal: 300+ Ap 18 OB,TPS (HM,ROP). Canvasback: thru May 16 JBWR (THD). Bufflehead: 400 Ap 28 JBWR (TWB,HM); 200+ May 6 JBWR (THD)—these birds were observed in the evening coming to roost on the west pond; high numbers at these late dates reflect the increase in numbers of this bird in recent years. Harlequin Duck: thru Ap 7 RMSP (mob). Common Eider: adult male Apr 26 thru period JBWR (mob)-the fact that this bird was seen on the west pond courting female Mallards indicate that this bird may have been an escape.

HAWKS—OWLS: Turkey Vulture: May 26 Lawrence (JA,TWB,HM)-rare on LI. Red-shouldered Hawk: in NYC: May 15 CP (RFP); 2 May 28 APP (OD, LJS); in late March a nest was found in BBG about 100 yards north of Fordham Road. Despite the caution observed by local birdwatchers, the birds seemed undisturbed by pedestrians who used the two nearby footpaths. By early April the birds were incubating and the young were expected in late April. Unfortunately, the inevitable occurred when, on Ap 27, three broken eggs and a nearby ladder indicated that some misguided soul had vandalized the nest. The NYC parks department once again exhibited their bureaucratic obdurateness and general incompetence when they refused to close the small section of the park needed to protect the birds. Osprey: 31 active nests on Gardiner's I (DP)-same number as

last year; 9 nests on Plum I (DP)-up 1 from last year; 1 nest CRSP; total: 41 active nests; DP reports there are no cracked eggs as of June 5 at Gardiner's or Plum and this is indeed optimistic; any reader knowing of any Osprey nest, successful or unsuccessful, is urged to send details for inclusion in next report. Peregrine Falcon: Mar 31 Bridgehampton (JA); May 11 JBWR (R Hines, RK)-a rather sad total.

King Rail: May 26 Lawrence (JA,TWB,HM,SJS). Virginia Rail: only one breeding locale in area at OB; details in summer report; any other breeding locales should be reported. Black Rail: May 19 OBZ (THD,DWF); 2 May 26 OB (TWB,HM, SJB); 3 May 30 OB (JA,HM); details in summer report *PURPLE GALLINULE*: May 18-23 Quogue (B Connolly et al)-bird was in a back-yard, seen among the lilacs. Whimbrel: Ap 21 JBWR (M Kleinbaum); May 21 TPS WB,LJS)-only reports; it seems odd that a bird so common 100 miles south at Brigantine, should be only occasional in our area in spring. Upland Plover: 3-6 Ap 24 Hofstra (R Hines, RK); Ap 27 JBWR (R Hines). Willet: Ap 18 OB (HM,ROP) early. Purple Sandpiper: 21 Ap 2 Rye (TWB). White-rumped Sandpiper: 40 May 22 OB (HM)-good numbers after mid-May. Long-billed Dowitcher: Ap 28 JBWR (TWR,HM)-the bird circled the west pond uttering a single thin "keek" known to the observers as Long-billed; For arguments on separation of the calls see BIRDING March-April 1973 Vol V #2. *BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER*: May 18 JBWR (CF Young)-very rare in spring. *RUFF*. imm male May 19-22 OB (THD,DWF); female May 25 JBWR (JA,TWB,RK,HM,SJS). Wilson's Phalarope: female Ap 30 TPS (FF et al); 2 May 19 OB (THD,DWT et al).

Glaucous Gull: Ap 7-May 14 JBWR (mob); Ap 28 Highland Park, Qns (JA,TWB,HM); May 26 Lido Beach (TWB,HM,SJS)-all birds were 2nd year. Iceland Gull: 1st year Ap 7 JBWR (DWF et al); 2nd year May 20 Montauk (PMP,PL et al). Black-headed Gull: sub-adult May 12 Fire Inlet (AL). Little Gull: 4 sub-adult May 12 Fire I Inlet (AL). Kittiwake: Ap 14 Shinnecock (GSR)-late. *GULL-BILLED TERN*: May 18 JBWR (THD,DWF). Royal Tern: May 25 Sagaponack L (THD et al)-very early. Caspian Tern: 2 Ap 27 Hempstead Lake State Park (THD,PL,PMP)-very early, and only report. Black Tern: 2 May 12 Fire I Inlet (AL)-only report. Mourning Dove: eggs discovered on Mar 7 constitute the earliest regional egg date (R Giffen). Barn Owl: 1 ad, 2 juv May 18 Long Beach (WB,LJS). Short-eared Owl: nesting Long Beach (WB,LJS)-only report of this disappearing breeder.

GOATSUCKERS-STARLINGS: Chuck-will's-widow belated report of an individual found dead on May 21 1973 Kennedy Airport (A: Moorhouse); calling bird May 18-25 Richmond Valley, SI (Susan Kerber, H Fischer); calling bird May 25 thru per OB (PMP,PL et al); male May 1 Highland Park, Qns (THD); with three reports this spring this bird is proving itself regular in our region. Red-bellied Woodpecker: six reports received from NYC parks including 2 mid-May thru period FP (mob)-breeding likely; this bird is known to be resident on mid LI but lack of information leaves its status undetermined. Red-headed Woodpecker: 9 reports from Ap 30 and May 5-22; were migrants; plus a lingering wintering bird thru May 10 E Islip (L Ford); total: 10, is excellent for spring. Acadian Flycatcher: 4 reports May 14-June 3. Alder Flycatcher: May 26 (RFP)-only report. Olive-sided Flycatcher: 8 reports from NYC parks from May 18-30. Cliff Swallow: 2 Ap 30 Lawrence (RK; May 5 JBWR (RK); rarely reported in our area except in early fall. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: arr Ap 4 Great Neck (B Wenoker); 20 Ap 20 CP (DWF et al)-highest regional number; numbers were high throughout area this spring. Cedar Waxwing: at two NYC parks a late flight was noted: at CP: 4 May 22; 4 May 25-26; 10 May 28 (all RFP); 25 May 25; 15 May 26 (both HM).

VIREOS--WARBLERS: White-eyed Vireo: arr Ap 21 JBWR (mob) and RMSP (DBF). Yellow-throated Vireo: May 20-27 Hempstead Lake State Park (THD, RK)-very early; June 3 CP (RFP)-very late. Solitary Vireo: arr Ap 21 CP (BWB); dep May 26 CP (RFP)- unusually late *PHILADELPHIA VIREO* May 23 Rye (TWB, HM)-very rare in spring; bird was seen well, black lores noted.

Prothonotary Warbler: 8 individuals; 7 males; arr male Ap 4-21 Northport (A McKay); male found dead Ap 6 Oakdale (G Bergen); male found dead Ap 10 CRSP (G Lawton)-these three reports are quite early; max 2 May 11 CP (mob). Golden-winged Warbler: 4 reports all from Queens Co May 1-18. Tennessee Warbler: high numbers everywhere; 40+ May 18 FP (THD)-highest, regional spring count. Nashville Warbler: 25 May 5 FP (THD, PMP, RWS)-new spring maxima. Orange-crowned Warbler: Ap 4-10 BBG (H Trowbridge et al); May 12 RMSP (DBF). Magnolia Warbler: high numbers esp during late May. Cape May Warbler: arr Ap 27 CP (L&L Goldman)-early; Black-throated Blue Warbler: arr Ap 17 CP (BWB)-very early. Yellow-rumped Warbler: stayed in large numbers later than usual, being quite common thru mid-May; 250 Ap 29 CP (HM). Black-throated Green Warbler: Bull (1964) calls this one of the most common migrants; it was rare to see more than three or four of these in a day this spring. Cerulean Warbler: 12 reports; arr female Ap 29-30 CP (mob); dep May 27 Montauk (GSR); max 2 May 11 and May 18 FP (THD et al). Yellow-throated Warbler: 9 reports is the highest spring total for this region; Ap 3 Great Gull I (GSR)-May 19 FP (JA). Bay-breasted Warbler: arr female Ap 21 Hempstead Lake State Park (S Schiff, A Wollin); male Ap 30 CP (HM, PMP)-earliest arrivals by 9 and 1 day (s) respectively; 25 May 16 CP (PMP); 50 May 18 PP (THD)-regional spring maxima. Pine Warbler: good numbers reported throughout NYC parks where this species become uncommon over the last couple of years; max 5 Ap 6 CP (BWB) as compared to one individual the entire spring of '73. Louisiana Waterthrush: arr Ap 6 BBG (M Shechtman)-early; May 4 Yaphank (GSR)-rare on LI; dep May 18 FP (THD, DWF)-very late, rare as a migrant after late Ap. Kentucky Warbler: the flight of this bird can only be described as an explosion; 15 individuals, 10 males, 2 females, 3 unknown; May 1-24; max 2 males May 12 APP (mob); 3 males May 18 FP (JA, THD). Mourning Warbler: 13 individuals, 12 males; 8 individuals at CP, from May 20-June 6 with 3 males May 29-31, and two males June 4; also 2 males May 25 FP (JA). Yellow-breasted Chat: 7 individuals from May 9 thru per; max 2 May 18 Rockway (J Bull). Hooded Warbler: arr Ap 11 Great Neck (G Flynn)-very early; max 3 May 11 FP (THD et al); 13 individuals. Canada Warbler: Ap 24 CP (B Stafford)-2nd earliest record.

BLACKBIRDS--SPARROWS: Bobolink: 10 May 25 Rye (TWB); 10+ nesting Purchase (TWB). Orchard Oriole: arr imm male Ap 25 CP (BWB) 3rd earliest date; May 18 CP (RFP). Summer Tanager: 16 individuals, 10 sub-adult males, 2 males, 1 female, 3 unknown; max 2 May 11 APP (mob)-continues to increase as a spring migrant. Blue Grosbeak: female May 18 FP (JA); 24 APP (LJS). Evening Grosbeak: dep 2 May 13 CP (RFP) and May 18 Millneck (fide RC). Common Redpoll: thru Ap 8 Seacliff (B Spencer). Pine Siskin: thru May 29 Islip (C Kibby)-at feeder. Red Crossbill: 90 Ap 7 RMSP (THD); pair seen mating at CRSP on May 6, about 5 pairs believed to be in that area (DP). White-winged Crossbill: 60 Ap 7 RMSP (THD); 6-10 Ap 18 Gilgo Beach (HM, ROP); female thru May 5 Babylon (J Smith)-at feeder.

Grasshopper Sparrow: Ap 7 Bye (George Kappus)-very early. Dark-eyed Junco: May 18 CP (RFP)-late. *GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROW*: Ap 13 Shoreham (Henry Halama fide GSR)-only details given were that the bird was an adult, appeared at a feeder, and that the observer had previous experience with

the bird; this is the second regional occurrence. Lincoln's Sparrow: 4 May 14 CP (PL et al)-high. Swamp Sparrow: 25 Ap 29 CP (HM)-high.

ADDENDA: to the winter 1973-74 report should be added one Sharp-shinned Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, and Merlin bringing the individual numbers to 7,5,5 respectively, the last being exceptional. Tree Sparrow: 380 Feb 3 JBWR (HM).

22 East 8th Street, New York, N.Y. 10003

WINTER REPORT RECEIVED TOO LATE FOR MAY ISSUE

REGION 10 — MARINE

HUGH D. MCGUINNESS

The rapid pace during most of November, of successive cold-fronts moving through our area had slowed down by December, leaving the region prone to rash fluctuations in the weather. In the interim between cold-fronts, warm southern air masses moved into the area producing unseasonably mild temperatures. The almost weekly clash of cold and warm air resulted in precipitation — snow and freezing rain often preceding a cold spell. Cold spells were characterized by harsh northwesterly winds and temperatures in the teens and below, and warm spells consisted of light winds with temperatures above 45°, sometimes above 60°. The results of these fluctuations were that for a period of about a week, ponds and lakes would be frozen, and the ground would be covered with snow or ice, thus, shutting off the food supply for many wintering birds; then, for a period of about a week, ponds and lakes would be frozen, and the ground would be covered with snow or ice, thus, shutting off the food supply for many wintering birds; then, for a similar length of time these supplies would reopen.

How the bizarre weather affected wintering avian populations is difficult to analyze. Waterfowl, especially dabblers, seemed to be higher in numbers, probably due to their ability to withstand the cold spells by feeding in open bays and estuaries. A severe ice-storm on Dec 16-17, which crippled the western half of the region, must have had an adverse effect on wintering passerines, and to a slower but more persevering extent, so must have the other cold periods. The general trend among this winter's populations, especially of the species at the northern limit of their winter range, was above normal numbers in early December which thinned towards the norm by mid February.

An unprecedented "flight" of Lesser Black-backed Gulls occurred from mid-December to mid-January. During this time no less than six individuals were present in the region: three in northern Bronx and southern Westchester; at least two in the vicinity of Montauk; and one bird at Jamacia Bay Refuge. Coincident, were a large number of reports of white-winged gulls, and, like the Lesser Black-backed Gull, the frequency of reports declined in the latter half of January. It is possible that the incursion of rarer indicates the occurrence of a large-scale southward movement of gulls; however, this conjecture is at best difficult to prove, for the numbers of the commoner gulls go unnoticed by most observers.

Most of the Red Crossbills that participated in November's flight moved through the area. Only a few small scattered wintering flocks were reported, except along the outer beaches where, through January, a continuation of the flight occurred when favorable conditions prevailed. Pine Siskin — another abundant transient last

fall – wintered in large numbers, and was also noted continuing its southward movement on favorable days. White-winged Crossbill, often unrecorded, wintered in fair to large numbers along the south shore of Long Island, whereas Evening Grosbeak was scarce, and Pine Grosbeak unreported. The culmination of the finch flight happened in late January, when, unexpectedly, Common Redpolls appeared in droves, until well over 2000 were present at one southern Long Island locale.

Birds more common than usual were: Goshawk; Black-bellied Plover; Purple Sandpiper; Red-headed Woodpecker; and Lapland Longspur. Less common: Horned Grebe; Sharp-shinned Hawk; Cooper's Hawk; Rough-legged Hawk; alcids; Short-eared Owl; Red-breasted Nuthatch; and Eastern Bluebird.

Late departures include: Cattle Egret; Long-billed Dowitcher; Black Skimmer; Western Kingbird; Eastern Phoebe Water Pipit Blue-gray Gnatcatcher Solitary Vireo; Nashville Warbler; Prairie Warbler; Scarlet Tanager; and Lark Sparrow. Early arrivals: American Oystercatcher; Pectoral Sandpiper; Eastern Phoebe; Tree Swallow; and Rough-winged Swallow.

A number of rarities showed up in early December, including six of the following birds: Eared Grebe; Barnacle Goose; Tufted Duck; Golden Plover; Lesser Black-backed Gull; Black Guillemot; White-winged Dove; Ash-throated Flycatcher; Black-headed Grosbeak, Henslow's Sparrow. Also included are two fall records of: Wood Ibis and Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.

Abbreviations: CP—Central Park; GKSJ—Great Kills, Staten Island; JSBP—Jones Beach State Park; JBWR—Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge; MP—Montauk Point; OB—Oak Beach; PBP—Pelham Bay Park; RMSP—Robert Moses State Park; SAG—Sagaponack Lake area, Bridge-hampton; Shinn—Shinnecock Bay and Inlet; TPS—Tobay Pond Sanctuary.

Contributors and Observers: JA—James Ash; JAB—John A. Black; PAB—Paul A Buckley; TWB—Thomas W. Burke; SC—Sam Cornblatt; ED—Ed Daly; THD—Thomas H Davis; JDC—Joe DiCostanzo; DWF—Davis W Finch; WF—Walter Friton; MH—Myrna Hemmerick; RH—Robert Hines; RK—Rich Kelly; AL—Anthony Lauro; TL—Tongs Lehman; JAM—Jose A Machado; HM—Hugh McGuinness; RP—Roger Pasquier; ROP—Robert O Paxton; PMP—Peter Manx Polshek; DP—Dennis Puleston; CSR—Gilbert S Raynor; GR—George Rose; JR—John Ruscica; AW—Alvin Wollin; JZ—Joe Zeranski; M(any) OB(servers).

LOONS—DUCKS: Red-necked Grebe: three coastal occurrences including Mar 9 through period OB (MOB); and one Feb 23 Rye (TWB)—always rare away from the outer coast. Horned Grebe: numbers very low all winter. *EARED GREBE*: Dec 1-16 JBWR (ED,SC). Pied-billed Grebe: 21 Feb 12 Lawrence (JA)—very high winter concentration. Great Cormorant: two non-coastal locales had very high counts, the latter being outstanding; 12 Mar 23 Rye (TWB); 35 Jan 15 PBP (JDC). Double-crested Cormorant; Dec 2 JBWR (MKB); 1 imm Jan 1 through period, joined by another bird Feb 18, Shinn (GSR) — very rarely reliably reported in winter. Snowy Egret: 9 Dec 30 Southern Nassau Christmas Count; arr Mar 16 TPS, (RK,PMP). Cattle Egret: Dec 1 MP (JA). Little Blue Heron: Mar 31 OB (RK) — very early. Glossy Ibis: Dec 28 East Marion; Dec 29 Brookhaven (DP); arr 15 Mar 24 JBWR (SC,ED).

Whistling Swan: wintered at three eastern L. I. localities; at Hook Pond: 11 Dec 1-2 Dec 22, 2 Mar 2 and one remained through period (JA); at Fort Pond, Montauk: 2 Dec 22 – Jan 12 (MOB; at SAG: 5 Jan 5 (JA) numbers varying between one and five all winter, last report Mar 16 (GSR); 8 Mar 20 Mecox (THD,HM,PMP). Brant: 15,000 Jan 6 TPS (TWB,HM,PMJ) — indicative of large numbers along the coast. Snow Goose: small wintering flocks at JBWR, Mecox, and SAG; Blue phase: 32 Mar 16-24 Wainscott (JA) — extraordinary high

count. *BARNACLE GOOSE*: Mar 17-21 Wainscott (JA)—This is the first report of this old-world species, in over 45 years, that is likely not to be an escape. The bird was observed in a migrant flock of 2000, rather wary, Canada Geese. The facts that the bird was wary and in with a migrant flock, that it stayed for only five days and that there was no evidence of prior captivity (bands, dull plumage, etc.) lead to the surmise that his Barnacle Goose—a species which occurred in our area before the advent of collections—was probably a wild bird. Gadwall: 150 Dec 22 Queens CC-high winter number. Blue-winged Teal: arr 2 Mar 10 Rye (TWB). European Widgeon: Dec 1 JBWR (RH,GR); Dec 1-22 Hook Pond (JA); Dec 26 South Haven (DP); Dec 22-Jan 20 Fort Pond, Montauk (MOB); 2 Mar 22 Wainscott (JR et al). *TUFTED DUCK*: Jan 6-Feb 17 Ward's Island (JAM). Ring-necked Duck 197 Dec 26 Central Suffolk CC-very high for LI. Canvasback: 2488 Dec 22 Queens CC; 1000 Dec 29 west pond JBWR (HM). Harlequin Duck: Dec 1-9 OB (AL,HM,PMP); Jan 1 through period RMSP (AL et al). Common Eider: due to the northern winds the tremendous onshore concentrations of eider which occurred last year failed to materialize again this year. However there were some respectable counts: all at MP: 450 Dec 1; 400 Dec 16; 20 Jan 6; 30 Jan 12; 150 Jan 20 150 Mar 2. King Eider: throughout period at MPJ with max 14 on 20 (THD, DWF et al); 2 Dec 30-late Feb Ferry Pt Park, Bronx (WF)-occasional on Long Island Sound. Common Merganser: 25 Dec 26 Central Suffolk CC-High for LI.

HAWKS—OWLS: Coshawk: high numbers again this winter; over ten reports received including seven wintering birds as follows: imm PBP; 2, adult and imm JBWR; Cedar Beach; Manorville; 2 Brookhaven. Sharpshinned Hawk: numbers low; max 3 Dec 26 Central Suffolk CC; only three other reports. Cooper's Hawk: Dec 26 Central Suffolk CC—only report. Red-shouldered Hawk: low, only two reports. Rough-legged Hawk; extremely scarce this winter; only one report from Montauk, where they are usually found, plus two other reports. Peregrine Falcon: Dec 1 MP (JA); Dec 3 TPS (R Giffen); Mar 31 Bridgehampton (JA). Merlin: four reports, including a bird throughout period at Valhalla Cem, S I (MOB), show that this bird would no longer be considered casual in Region 10, rather a rare winter resident.

Ruffed Grouse: GSR reports low numbers on central LI. Clapper Rail: 6 Feb 18 Shinn (GSR)—high number for mid winter. American Oystercatcher: arr Mar 10 Shinn (D&M Powers) and Captree (B Conolly)—earliest arrival date. Semipalmated Plover: up to 3 Jan 12 wintered at JBSP (AW). *GOLDEN PLOVER*: Feb 3 JBSP (S Schiff, AW)—all field marks noted at close range; first mid-winter record. Black-bellied Plover: abnormally high numbers in early winter: 150 Dec 1 JBSP (E. Levine); 50 Dec 27 Smithtown CC; 50 Jan 7 JBSP (TWB,HM). Ruddy Turnstone: 40 wintered GKSI (MOB)—unprecedented for winter. Red Knot: max 7 Dec 26 Central Suffolk CC; Purple Sandpiper: 125 Dec 8 Breezy Point (JA); 200+ Jan 5 GKSI (JAM, P Tozzi)—both numbers very high. Pectoral Sandpiper: 2 Mar 2 Halsey Pond (JA)—earliest record by 16 days. Dunlin: 5000 Mar 2 RMSP (DWF,AL)—over two times higher than previous regional maximum Long-billed Dowitcher: 2 Dec 30 TPS (TL et al)—heard calling, these birds represent the latest regional occurrence. Semipalmated Sandpiper: Jan 22 JBSP (H Raffaele).

Iceland Gull: max 4 late Dec (E Mills). *LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL*: at Montauk: 1 Dec 16 MP-2 Dec 22 MP (DP,) — Dec 30 Hither Hills. (R Boardman); in northern Bronx-southern Westchester there were three individuals; an adult with yellow legs seen at Jerome Res, Bronx Dec 23 (PAB) through early Feb; an adult with pale, flesh colored legs seen at Jerome Res Dec 25 (PAB); and a sub adult with vestiges of immature plumage seen at Hillview Res, Westchester Dec 23; at JBWR an adult bird was seen sitting on the ice Jan 19 (JA). Ring-

billed Gull: 2500 Feb 16 CP (HM)-very high concentration. Black-headed Gull: low; only three reports. Laughing Gull: high numbers through most of December, but virtually gone by Jan. Bonaparte's Gull: 8000 Jan 26 Jones Inlet (JA). Little Gull: in Dec reported from Shinn; OB; and Jones Inlet; from Feb to early Mar at least four individuals were in the flocks of Bonaparte's Gulls between Long Beach-Jones Inlet-Fire Island Inlet. Black Skimmer: Dec 29 JBWR (JA); Dec 30 TPS (TL et al); Dec 31 RMSP (AL); this series of observations remains unexplained, as most winter occurrences of Skimmer have occurred after hurricanes. Razorbill: Dec 28 Shelter I (GSR); Jan 12 MP (DP,GSR). **BLACK GUILLEMOT**: Dec 8 MP (PAB); Jan 12 MP (GSR et al)-it is strange that this regionally rare alcid should occur twice in a season when the other alcids are so rare (no reports of Dovekie). **WHITE-WINGED DOVE**: Dec 8 Riis (RH,GR)-this second regional record was seen at close range feeding on the ground; all field marks noted. Photographed that afternoon by ED. Intensive searching the following day failed to relocate the bird. Snowy Owl: only four reports, two of them transient birds. Long-eared Owl: scarce until heavy snows in mid Jan when they occurred throughout the region; max 12 Jan 19 PBP (R Kane). Short-eared Owl: scarce throughout the region; max 5 Jan 20 GKSJ (H Fisher).

GOATSUCKERS-STARLINGS: Red-headed Woodpecker: high winter numbers followed last fall's excellent flight; 2 ad wintered PBP (JDC); 1 wintered E Islip (L Ford); 2 additional winter reports. Western Kingbird: Dec 1 Montauk (JA). Eastern Phoebe: dep Dec 26 Calverton (GSR); arr Mar 4 Bayride Brooklyn (JDC)-earliest arrival date. **ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER**: Dec 1-5 Ridge (JG,GSR,DP)-bird was captured, subsequently died, in a highly emaciated condition, and was identified as this species. Tree Swallow: Jan 28 JBWR (JDC)-the 60 degree weather of the preceding week makes it probable that this bird was an early migrant. Rough-winged Swallow: 2 Mar 24 Bridgehampton (TWP,HM)-earliest arrival. Tufted Titmouse: GSR reports this bird is continuing its spread eastward on LI. Red-breasted Nuthatch: much less common than usual this season. Eastern Bluebird: one winter report; 2 Jan 28 Upton (fide GSR)-following mild weather these may have been north bound migrants. Water Pipit: usually late in departing; 4 Dec 15 Captree CC; 7 Dec 22 Queens CC; 2 through first week of Jan at JBWR. Blue-gray Gnatcatcher: Dec 2 Easthampton (JA). Northern Shrike: 2 Dec 15 Captree CC; Mar 13 JBSP (fide TL). Loggerhead Shrike: Dec 4 Orient State Park (JAR); Dec 26 Central Suffolk CC; Jan 5 Mecox (JA).

VIREOS-WARBLEDERS: Solitary Vireo: Dec 16 Cunningham Park (A Wagner)-latest departure date. Orange-crowned Warbler: Dec 26 Central Suffolk CC-only report. Nashville Warbler: Dec 26 Central Suffolk CC-fourth winter occurrence. Prairie Warbler: Dec 15 Gilgo Beach (G G Daniels, HM, R Smart)-latest fall date by 13 days. Yellow-breasted Chat: Nov 19-Jan 11 Brooklyn Civic Center (J Porter Reilly)-bird found dead on latter date; the bird was found on a plot of land "100 feet square" in downtown Brooklyn.

BLACKBIRDS-SPARROWS: Northern Oriole: max 9 late Nov-early Dec East Meadow (H Hopping, R Wolk et al)-birds appeared at a feeder. Scarlet Tanager: Dec 3 Bronx (Mrs. Cass Gallagher)-found dead with eyes still visible; latest regional occurrence by 12 days. **BLACK-HEADED GROSBEAK**: Dec 8 Scarsdale (John Moyle)-appeared at a feeder. Dickcissel: Dec 22 Queens CC-only report. Common Redpoll: in Dec scattered reports of small flocks from Westchester; arr Dec 10 Larchmont (TL); reaching coast Jan 20 Jones (GSR); then 500 Feb 10 RMSP (TL et al); 2000-3000 Feb 11-27 RMSP (MOB); 1 bird Mar 31 RMSP (RK); despite numerous reports of Hoary Redpoll none of these were ever verified; Darrel Ford banded well over 700 at RMSP, some of these very pale, yet all were

Common Pine Siskin: 530 Jan 6 RMSP, Jones (TWB, HM, PMP); 1000+ (in one flock) Jan 19 RMSP (THD, DWF, TL). Red Crossbill: 655 Jan 6 RMSP, Jones (TWB, HM, PMP); 800 Jan 13 RMSP (AL). White-winged Crossbill: 28 Jan 20 MP (THD, DWF, TL); 25 Feb 10 RMSP (TL et al); 100+ Mar 2 Cedar Beach (HM, ROP); both crossbills remained through the period at RMSP (RK). *HENSLOW'S SPARROW*: Dec 1 Riis Park (RH, GR). Lark Sparrow: Dec 15 West Babylon (G Tudor). Lapland Longspur: good sized flocks only at JBWR; beginning mid-Dec with up to five birds; 60 Jan 6; 75 Jan 19; 175-200 Feb 10 (H Tetrault, R Sitchell).

ADDENDA: late fall reports: *WOOD IBISs* Oct 11-12 Fresh Kills, S I (Gloria Deppe)-seen in flight both days; large size, extended neck, dark head, neck and in wings noted. *SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER*: Oct 28 Massapequa Park (Harry Volz). Ovenbird: Nov 25 Port Washington (J Lamoureux)-latest fall occurrence by one day.

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